

### THE TIMES Tomorrow

**Name your price**  
What's in a name? More than the price of a £1,000 election deposit, says Peter Kellner. Have a care.  
The ready-wrapped child minder. Bailey Morris looks at the American child-care business.  
**One up**  
Can Liverpool hold on to their one-goal lead away against Benfica in Lisbon? Stuart Jones previews the match.  
**The woman least likely**  
Nicholas Shakespeare talks to a woman who lays claim to the British Ploughshares.  
**Jock Bruce-Gardyne**  
on how to make money by not doing what you weren't going to do anyway.

## Likud loses majority in Israel

Israel's ruling Likud coalition last night lost its overall majority in the Knesset when the small Tami party broke away and said it would table a motion today calling for an early general election.

## Women evicted

Council workmen and women anti-nuclear protesters struggled at Greenham Common as the women were evicted from the air base's Blue Gate.  
Women wait, page 3

## Last hope

Lebanese leaders at the reconciliation talks in Lausanne have suggested one final night-time conference session, but this is thought unlikely to produce any concrete agreement.  
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## BBC questions

The Warsaw correspondents of the BBC and The New York Times were questioned by Polish security police in connection with an investigation against a human rights lawyer.  
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## Tube strike

London's bus and Tube workers are to strike on Wednesday next week, and confrontation seems likely on the railways over a 4 per cent pay and productivity offer.  
Page 2

## Adams charge

Three men will appear in court in Belfast today charged with the attempted murder of Mr Gerry Adams, MP.  
Adams home, page 2

## YTS doubts

More than 100,000 school-leavers have chosen to remain unemployed rather than join the Youth Training Scheme and the programme's future strategy could be in doubt.  
Page 2

## Election gloom

Few people in the guerrilla zone of rural El Salvador believe Sunday's elections will bring any improvements. In many places they may not take place at all.  
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## Awacs sent

The United States has sent two Awacs surveillance aircraft to Egypt to combat air attacks against Sudan. Libya has been accused of raiding Omdurman last Friday.  
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## Hospitals threat

At least two general hospitals will close and 2,000 beds be withdrawn because of the population shift away from London.  
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## Mirror setback

Falling profits, revision of the prospectus and a continuing pension fund dispute are likely to delay the £100m flotation of Mirror Group Newspapers.  
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**Leader page, 13**  
Letters: On defence, from Lord Lewin; wages council, from Mr C. Pond and Mr E. MacLennan; Budget, from Lord Rossberry. Leading articles: Miners; extradition in Ireland; Sudan. Features, pages 8, 10 and 12. A government breakthrough in the control of industrial disputes? Bernard Levin on the siren's song: Roger Scruton, hails old-time service; Spectrum: the men who would be king; Fashion; the London look. Obituary, page 14. Mr Jan van der Post, Mr D. P. Bliss.

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# Britain stands firm on principles at EEC summit

From Julian Haviland and Ian Murray, Brussels

A blueprint for a lasting solution to each of the most urgent problems threatening to derail the European Community was being urgently put together into the small hours of today, after an unexpectedly positive opening session.

The heads of government set senior officials to work on a draft for agreement later today, when the summit is to end.

The text is to deal with Britain's two main demands, a fairer budget for all and tighter control of all community spending, particularly that of agriculture.

Although several delegations spoke of a will to agree, Mrs Margaret Thatcher upset some by her manner, as she has often done before. Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the West German Foreign Minister, who is not often moved to rudeness, said she was "unrepentant and inflexible".

There seemed to be early agreement in principle that there must be a new system for calculating how much each member state should pay, but the summit leaders adjourned for dinner with no agreement on figures.

The officials were also set the task of writing an outline agreement on increasing the Community's resources, although Mrs Thatcher repeated, in her first intervention, that the Community would have to "put its house in order" before she would assent to any increase.

There were two early indications that the progress which eluded the Ten at Athens might be achieved at last. The first was the continuing secrecy, with the participants keeping their negotiating hands concealed from

the outside world well after the talks had started.

The heads of government appeared intent on giving themselves and their partners the maximum room for manoeuvre.

The second surgery was in the refusal of ministers in their public words to countenance failure.

The spokesman for President Mitterrand of France, on whose shoulders as chairman the main burden rests, said the first round of contributions had shown an excellent, positive attitude.

The summit, which he said had been described as a last ditch summit, was rather the "summit of truth. Given Europe's political, economic, intellectual and cultural clout the break-up of the Community is unthinkable."

Another deadlock as at Athens was equally unthinkable, the spokesman added. President Mitterrand, in his secret preparatory bilateral

talks, had formed the impression that each member government was conscious of the need for Europe's cohesion, and intent on resolving the issues.

British spokesmen said their government preferred to talk of success, not failure. Britain approached the talks in a positive and determined frame of mind.

The British Government wanted a settlement, but not on "any old terms" and not by compromising principles.

The talks began briskly, to the satisfaction of the French presidency whose latest draft proposals, circulated late last week, were the basis for discussion.

The first discussion of "imbalances", which means the British budget problem, was completed at high speed.

Mrs Thatcher said the French paper was "useful" but she insisted it needed to be both clarified and changed if it was to form the basis for a settlement.

She complained of the "obscurity" in the paper's definition of the gap between what Britain pays and receives, and expressed anxiety that the text as it stood underestimated by about £120m the amount Britain pays.

If that interpretation were accepted then the British contribution would have to be adjusted accordingly. Mrs Thatcher repeated her offer, made in Athens, to pay a net contribution (at present rates) of between £240m and £300m.

"My attitude is strictly practical," she said. "It is the result that matters."

Continued on back page, col 5

Mrs Thatcher in Brussels yesterday

Scuffles broke out yesterday between miners and police outside the NUM's Barnsley headquarters. More than 1,000 miners had gathered, fearing that High Court bailiffs would arrive. (Photograph: Brian Harris).



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## Kinnock rejects Liverpool plea

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Mr Neil Kinnock yesterday disassociated himself from the plans of the ruling Labour group on Liverpool City Council to confront the Government by making a legal rate this month.

After meeting Mr Kinnock at the Commons, Liverpool's Labour Leaders reaffirmed their determination to go ahead with their attempt to force through their policy of refusing to match spending and the rates.

Mr Kinnock, who during the meeting had refused the council's request to make a public declaration supporting the intended action said afterwards: "I refuse to make what would, in the circumstances, be an idle gesture."

He said that because councils could not deliberately plan for a budget deficit and because government controls over local councils were so severe, the expenditure required for implementing the Labour group's policies would force the city council into illegality.

If the council tried to operate its proposed policies, the present Labour councillors and any successors who tried to implement those policies would lose office and authority would be taken over by Conservatives or Liberals, or government officials.

"In short, the present law and the power of the Govern-

ment to enforce that law means that defiance by councillors or others in Liverpool cannot have the effect of preventing job losses or of securing additional resources," Mr Kinnock said.

That reality understandably infuriated opinion in a city.

Mr Kinnock's statement will infuriate some on the left. Merseyside Labour Briefing, a far left grouping within the party, accused him of Shadow Cabinet leaks to distance the party from the city council's fight. "It is Neil Kinnock that is out of line, not Liverpool," it said.

The Labour group leaders say that at the March 29 rate-making meeting they will press ahead despite a refusal by six of their members to back an illegal budget.

The six would be enough to deprive Labour of its majority. The party leadership still hopes the group will adopt one of the "practical budget alternatives" open to it.

That appeared unlikely after yesterday's meeting. Mr Tony Mulhearn, Liverpool Labour Party's president, said the group would continue to campaign for maximum possible support for its budget, which, he said, the party was elected last May.

It would continue to seek a declaration of support from the parliamentary leadership.

## National savings rates cut

By Peter Wilson-Smith

The Government last night withdrew the 26th issue of National Savings certificates and is cutting interest rates on other National Savings accounts.

The move has been widely expected because the falling interest rates had left National Savings paying much more to investors than competing forms of savings. There was some surprise when the Chancellor, Mr Nigel Lawson, did not announce lower rates in the Budget, the reductions announced last week by building societies and banks made a cut inevitable.

The interest on income bonds and deposit bonds is coming down from 11 to 10 per cent before tax from May 3, and the investment account rate will fall from 11 to 9.25 per cent from April 2.

A 27th issue of savings certificates will be launched on April 5, paying 7.25 per cent tax free compared with 8.26 per cent on the 26th issue. The new issue is worth at least 10.4 per cent to taxpayers, who are allowed to invest a maximum of £5,000. Each £25 unit will be worth £35.48 after five years.

The amount savers can put in either income bonds or investment accounts was reduced in the Budget from £200,000 to £50,000.

Rates paid by National Savings are still much higher than ordinary seven-day deposit accounts with banks, which now offer 5.25 per cent before tax.

Homeowners are rushing to beat the June 1 deadline when VAT becomes payable on building improvements. An official of the Halifax Building Society said yesterday: "Last year we lent £325m in further advances on existing mortgages. Now we are expecting at least 10 per cent more."

## TUC continues to boycott Neddy

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

TUC leaders decided last night to continue their boycott of the National Economic Development Council (Neddy) in protest at the Government's decision to ban trade unions at the Government Communications Headquarters in Cheltenham. The boycott will be reviewed on a month by month basis but is expected to last until the annual congress in September.

The decision, by a 25 to 16 majority, was taken despite pressure from moderates that the TUC ought to return to Neddy in order to represent union members' interest in the economic forum which includes ministers and representatives of the Confederation of British Industry.

The general council decided, however, not to boycott meetings of the Neddy industry committees, which conduct surveys of more than 40 industrial sectors.

The decision was taken in spite of an appeal by Mr Len Murray, the general secretary, to end the boycott because, he argued, the unions had made their point. He refused to elaborate on the decision last night except to say that it had

been taken in the knowledge of the available alternatives.

Mr Terry Duffy, president of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers and a member of the TUC team on Neddy, was opposed to the withdrawal but said that he was in some ways satisfied that the boycott may only be temporary.

However, other general council members indicated their satisfaction with the decision not to attend the monthly Neddy meetings. Mr William Keys, the general secretary of the print union Sogan '82, said: "I never believed that the NEDC have done anything for working people."

Supporters of the continued TUC boycott were unconcerned at the prospect of the Government winding up the council if the TUC policy was not changed. It is also expected that there will be an important debate at the Brighton congress in September on the whole question of relationships with the Government.

The TUC has decided that it will continue to be represented on many bodies and organisations in which government nominees also sit.

Mr Edward Heath last night warned the Government that the country could not survive on a diet of microchips alone.

Intervening in the final day of the Commons debate on the Budget, the former Prime Minister pointed out that Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, had spoken out against state intervention - before announcing a series of measures designed to help high technology industry.

But he told ministers that it was wrong to decide that the economy should be geared exclusively to an era of services, at the expense of manufacturing.

"We cannot just live on a diet of microchips and home computers," he said. "When we are all in this country taking in each other's washing who is going to do something which is going to pay for the imports it is essential for us to have?"

Mr Heath said that steel, shipbuilding, car-making and engineering had not become

outdated; they were essential and vital and they should not be neglected.

Earlier, opening the debate, Mr Tebbit said that the Chancellor had delivered a Budget enterprise, for risk-taking and for employment because it was a business Budget.

Mr Peter Shore, the Opposition spokesman, said it was ludicrous to claim that it was a Budget for jobs, it set the scene for a cutback in public spending and an accelerated sell-off of public sector assets.

John Woodcock writes from Lahore: Botham was, in fact, in Pakistan for 12 days, nine in Karachi and three in Lahore. In that time I stayed in the same two hotels. The first was as clean and comfortable as any I have known, and the food, both European and Pakistani, was of a high class; the second was not far behind it. They are no different from many of the best hotels in the world. Such a clumsy as Botham's could be ignored if it did not cause such distress.

Rather than never playing in Pakistan again, the best thing Botham could do would be to win the forgiveness of the cricketing community here by returning one day and showing them what rare fire he can be both as a guest and a cricketer.

Match report, page 22

Botham: "In a low mood"

Botham said yesterday that when interviewed he was still feeling the effects of the exploratory knee operation which caused him to return home early from the tour last week and "was in a low mood".

The comments by Botham have caused an outcry in Pakistan and Sarfaraz Nawaz, Pakistan's vice-captain, said in an interview with the Pakistan Times that Botham said was total nonsense and a "poisonous utterance".

Alan Smith, the manager of a tour which has been bedevilled by poor performances on the field and allegations of bad behaviour off it, issued a statement yesterday disavowing himself and the players still in Pakistan from Botham's comments. He said that the team were very satisfied with the arrangements made for them and praised the management and staff of the hotels in Karachi, Lahore and Faisalabad, at which the team have stayed, for their courtesy and helpfulness.

Many members of the England party have been struck down by illness in Pakistan, but Mr Smith said that the illness "is essentially chest and

throat infection and not related to food".

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Match report, page 22

## Coal board pulls back from court confrontation

By Paul Roudedge, Labour Editor

A successful police operation to escort 40,000 miners through "picket" lines in the moderate coalfields yesterday prompted the National Coal Board to pull back from a High Court confrontation with the Yorkshire miners' union.

Despite continuing defiance of injunctions granted last week against secondary picketing by Yorkshire miners, lawyers for the NCB told Mr Justice Caulefield that "it would not be constructive" to proceed with an action for contempt.

The motion for contempt was adjourned generally, which allows the coal board to return to the High Court with a fresh complaint after giving the National Union of Mineworkers two days' notice. Management sources insisted that the action had not been abandoned.

Mr Arthur Scargill, president of the NUM, said, however, that the board's climbdown was due to the "tremendous solidarity" of the miners, 75 per cent of whom were now on strike.

The lessons for the miners and for all workers is clear. Through solid unity and with maximum trade union support we can save pits and jobs, while resisting Tory anti-union legislation.

The massive and unprecedented police presence in coalfields, where the men have voted to work on, allowed the NCB to open 44 of its 176 pits for normal coal production at the first shift yesterday. That fell to 42 last night as some were "picketed out" and leaders of 10,000 North Derbyshire miners called their men out on strike, even though they had voted by a majority of 16 not to take industrial action.

Sporadic picketing by Yorkshire miners was reported by the board, though not to the High Court, in Nottinghamshire, but most pickets walked through the picket lines to restart output after last week's disruption.

That relatively peaceful return to work, and the anti-strike ballots in 10 coalfields over the past few days were cited yesterday by Mr Tom Morrison QC - as "important developments" in the dispute since Mr Justice Nolan granted injunctions last Wednesday against the Yorkshire NUM for organising unlawful picketing.

"Since the first shift, most if not all, of those who have sought to go to work have been able to do so," he told Mr Justice Caulefield.

The judge interjected: "They have, had some assurance, haven't they? Counsel replied: 'Yes'."

Mr Morrison went on: "The board's hope is that in the light of these two events it will now be possible for a position to be reached in which those who wish to work may do so without the necessity for substantial police protection."

While the five-minute court hearing took place, more than 1,000 Yorkshire miners massed outside their union headquarters in Huddersfield Road, Barnsley, evidently fearing that High Court bailiffs would move in to exact heavy fines for contempt of the no-picketing orders.

They eventually dispersed after scuffles with police, and Mr Jack Taylor, president of the Yorkshire NUM, welcomed the coal board's withdrawal of the action for contempt.

"On the surface, this appears to be a victory for the Yorkshire miners and those who have been supporting them. But we are under no illusions. The main struggle, against pit closures and poor jobs, will have to be continued with renewed determination."

As tensions in the industry began to diminish last night, union leaders were taking stock of their next move.

The moderates want an early recall of the union's national executive committee, leading to a secret pithead ballot on pay and pit closures.

Mr Scargill and the union's general secretary, Mr Peter Heathfield, are considering requests for an emergency executive gathering.

Though the crop of ballots last week produced only one majority for industrial action, the strike is spreading.

Continued on back page, col 4

## McGlinchey Twenty held in court after £3m drug swoop

Dominic McGlinchey, who was extradited from the Republic of Ireland two days ago, appeared in court in Ulster last night, accused of murdering a

Cannabis resin, valued at more than £3m at street prices, was seized on a motorway service area yesterday.

Twenty people were arrested after the raid on the Scratchwood Services of the M1 just north of London, and subsequent searches of properties in London, Middlesex, Hertfordshire and Essex.

The drugs, weighing one and a half tons, were seized as they were being transferred from a cross-Channel ferry to a van.

Leading article, page 13

## CHARLES CHURCH

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# Government to invest £180m to stimulate microelectronics

By Bill Johnstone, Technology Correspondent

The Government is to invest about £180m in high technology industries between now and 1990 in anticipation of generating a further £1,000m.

The package's mainstay is a £120m investment in the Microelectronics Industry Support Programme, an extension of a project set up in 1978. More than £55m has been invested under the original scheme and has attracted, according to government estimates, a further £270m in the high technology area.

The money will assist British companies in developing advanced microchip design.

Outlining the scheme, Mr Kenneth Baker, Minister for Information Technology, said: "More is happening in the electronics industry in Britain than anywhere else in Europe, both in production and applications. Between 1978 and 1983 the production of microchip in the United Kingdom has more than trebled.

"We have caught up West Germany as the largest consumer of microchips in Western Europe, accounting for 29 per cent of total European consumption."

The software (computer programs) scheme was given another £12m to allow the project to encourage development of software with export potential.

That scheme was created in

1972. It had little impact for more than a decade, but was relaunched two years ago. Since then about 160 projects have been given a total of £21m.

Britain has one of the fastest-growing high technology sectors. It is intended that this investment programme will assist manufacturers in designing British products around British-developed microelectronics.

Mr Baker said: "We must maintain our lead and extend it. In the remainder of the 1990s the electronics industry will need to invest £1b in the development and production of integrated circuits.

The Government has invested more than £100m in grants and loans in Iamus, the microchip company, and is trying to attract further investment from the private sector.

Part of the high technology package announced will mean another 25 information technology centres for training unemployed youths in microelectronics and computers being added to the planned network of 150.

A further £20m will also be available to small companies in textiles, clothing, and footwear industries to invest in advanced technology machinery and another £20m for the development of modern manufacturing technology.

## Heseltine to scrap intelligence post

By Our Defence Correspondent

The Ministry of Defence's top intelligence posts are to be rationalized as part of the efforts by Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence, to eliminate duplication in senior jobs (our Defence Correspondent writes).

There are two top intelligence appointments in the ministry, Director General of Intelligence and Deputy Chief of Defence Staff (Intelligence). It is understood they will be replaced by a single appointment of a chief of defence intelligence later this year.

The present Director General of Intelligence is Vice-Admiral Sir Roy Halsey. Air Marshal Sir Michael Armitage is Deputy Chief of Defence Staff (Intelligence).

The jobs are seen as being largely interchangeable, with Sir Roy concentrating on running the intelligence department, and Sir Michael reporting to Field Marshal Sir Edwin Bramall, the Chief of the Defence Staff.

The name of the new chief of defence intelligence has not yet been announced, but it is said that Sir Michael is front-runner.

Last week Mr Heseltine announced radical plans to strengthen the position of the central defence staffs in their relations with the individual services, and to eliminate duplication of work in senior posts.



At arm's length: Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence, inspecting the latest version of the remote control bomb disposal machine used by the Army, at Morfax Ltd in Mitcham, south London, yesterday.

## Rail strike likely as unions offered 4%

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

The prospect of a further confrontation on the railways over pay and productivity emerged last night after British Rail made a 4 per cent offer tied to union acceptance of fundamental changes in working practices.

British Rail set a deadline of April 16 for agreement by the unions to the productivity changes, which were first proposed nearly four years ago. There seems little chance of early union approval of the offer.

The pay offer came as railway and other transport unions called a one-day strike at London Transport on Wednesday next week as part of the TUC's week of protest over the Government's plans for curtailing the powers of local government.

The strike call, which has to be ratified by the executives of the unions involved, would halt all bus and Tube travel in the capital. The decision was taken against the advice of public service unions who fear it could prove counter-productive.

A joint meeting yesterday of the TUC's local government and transport industries committees heard arguments from the white-collar unions that a strike would threaten services which the TUC was arguing that the Government was questioning. It was also pointed out that the strike, originally planned for next Thursday, would prevent many people

## Crisis in the coalfields

### Police mobilization will cost councils and public millions

By Stewart Tendler

The police mobilization to meet the miners' picketing is likely to cost millions of pounds.

On Sunday the operation was estimated to have cost £1.5m. Yesterday, another £500,000 was spent covering the Nottingham area with 3,000 extra officers.

Precise figures were not available yesterday at the National Recording Centre, the operational headquarters based in Scotland Yard.

Mr Andrew Sloan, chief constable of Bedfordshire and deputy head of the centre, said that too many factors were involved.

The bill will be presented to the police authorities in the Midlands whose chief constables asked for assistance: Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Nottinghamshire and Warwickshire, have a total strength of 6,673 officers. They can be supplemented by up to 3,000 officers available to the centre.

They are members of support units created by every force over the past few years. The units, each containing one inspector, two sergeants and 20 constables, are trained in riot and public order duties and can be mobilized rapidly.

Up to 17 forces have been asked for help under a mutual aid scheme laid down in the Police Act, 1964. Not all the forces have been named, but they include Thames Valley, Gloucestershire, West Midlands and West Mercia, who were yesterday providing extra men for the Warwick force.

In all Warwick fielded 1,000 men, its total strength is 920, but the other three forces would not say how many were helping or where they came from.

The National Recording Centre, founded in 1972, has been opened four or five times, including an industrial dispute

in the prison service and the Papal visit in 1982. Officers were mobilized for the riots in the summer of 1981.

When planning started last week, Mr Lawrence Byford, the Chief Inspector of Constabulary, went to Nottingham. He returned to London on Sunday night and yesterday the Home Office said that his role had been to report to the Home Secretary on police action.

Another inspector of constabulary is a member of the centre's staff and, according to the 1981 report by Mr Byford's predecessor, is a director of operations.

Kent miners leaders denounced the police presence in the coalfields yesterday as "a paramilitary operation" that broke new ground in industrial disputes. (Our Labour Editor writes).

Area officials of the National Union of Mineworkers complained that cars carrying flying pickets to the south Midlands National Coal Board area had been stopped by police before they left the county on suspicion that they could be going to break the law.

Mr Malcolm Pitt, area president said: "What is happening is bringing the law into grave disrepute. That is our charge against the government. This is a paramilitary operation quite different to anything we have seen in this country before."

"We are not in a state of emergency, in fact we are in a state of normality. This operation is a complete breach with past concepts of civil policing. The police are making assumptions about people driving on the public highway. They are assuming an intention to break the law which I do not think can be argued."

The Kent miners, who stopped Bagworth colliery in Leicestershire last week, said

## SWP makes a tactical retreat

By Tim Jones

The Socialist Workers' Party has instructed members to stage a tactical retreat from positions of power in a teachers' union and build up a revolutionary base among the rank and file.

But party activists have also been told to cultivate and convert key personnel in college departments.

While the party concedes that the struggle in colleges is at a low ebb, it exhorts members to collect money from polytechnics and colleges to support industrial disputes and to take activists to picket lines.

The thrust of the new strategy is to establish a stronger rank-and-file power base in higher education establishments from which the party can operate.

Members have been told to avoid holding important college posts unless they make a good case to their local branch.

The party believes a grip on union posts could identify it with failure. An internal document states: "The existing leadership, even when left in name, has turned rightwards as a result of the downturn in members' activities and is isolated and demoralized."

"Becoming, for example, a branch secretary of the National Association of Teachers (Further and Higher Education) is a recipe for disaster."

"We end up negotiating rotten deals or becoming buried under piles of union paperwork, with no chance of developing revolutionary politics."

Members are reminded that they do not join a trade union just to be good unionists, but to lead revolutionary politics.

"Under present conditions trying to represent the majority whose confidence is low inevitably involves a dilution of revolutionary politics. We can only relate to those prepared to fight."

## Two reasons why Britain's coal industry will be booming by the year 2000

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

The future of coal as an energy source in Britain depends on the action of two men. Mr Arthur Scargill is not one of them, and if it is any personal consolation to him, neither is Mr Ian MacGregor.

The president of the National Union of Mineworkers and the chairman of the National Coal Board will both decide how the British coal industry develops in the short-term. Both share the view that industrial coal consumption must be stimulated and both have the vision to look beyond the present glut of oil to the time when British coal will be among the world's major and cheapest energy sources.

However, in the medium term it will be the chairman of two other nationalized industries, the Central Electricity Generating Board the British Gas Corporation, who will play a significant role.

The NCB now depends on the electricity supply industry for its existence. The CEBG ceases more than 70 per cent of the NCB's output, although its present chairman, Sir Walter Marshall, is a firm enthusiast for nuclear power. He came from the UK Atomic Energy Authority and makes no secret of envying his French counter-

part, who has been able to build more nuclear power stations in the 1980s than there are in all Britain.

The CEBG has changed its policy on coal purchases in the past year. It still takes the bulk from the NCB, but has cut its guaranteed lift from the pits from 65 million tonnes to 60 million tonnes a year and has broken the link between the price it pays and the annual inflation rate.

The Government now pays £60m a year to the electricity industry so that it will not import cheaper Australian coal under a long-term contract. (This coal is stored in Holland, although in mole-hill heaps compared to the mountains of UK coal now at the power stations.)

Sir Walter is still convinced, however, that the power industry will increase its reliance on coal. "The development of a viable coal industry in the UK, producing coal economically is something as dear to my heart as it is to Mr MacGregor's. Cheap coal means cheap electricity."

British Gas, having had the good fortune to find natural gas as its feedstock, has not continued its research into the

making of synthetic natural gas from coal and now claims a world lead in this.

Synthetic natural gas is far removed from the poisonous town gas made from coal until the mid-1960s, and the British Gas Corporation's research into its manufacture from coal is based on the need to show the oil companies in the North Sea that it is not entirely dependent on them and that when North Sea gas runs out there is an alternative ready to be pumped into the national network.

However, if Mr Scargill and Mr MacGregor are proved correct, industrial demand for coal will treble by the year 2000.

The Monopolies Commission has suggested that a small amount of this increase will come from existing customers and that the majority will come from industry moving to coal for the first time.

The recent transfer of responsibility for administering the Government's coal-conversion scheme has been transferred from the Department of Industry, where it was never enthusiastically promoted, to the Department of Energy. Mr

## Cut in youth training 'threatens pledge to school-leavers'

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

Cuts proposed by the Government in the Youth Training Scheme could throw into doubt the scheme's ability to meet the commitment to provide every unemployed 16-year-old school-leaver with the offer of a place within six months of leaving school, it was said yesterday.

The director of the National Council for Voluntary Organizations, Mr Nicholas Hinton, added that worthwhile schemes for disadvantaged young people would also be put at risk by the Government's decision to overrule proposals by the Manpower Services Commission.

Unsettled at the progress of the £1,000m scheme, now six months old was expressed yesterday in several quarters and the Government's advisers on the scheme have started a review of its operations and will put forward suggested improvements by the summer.

Latest figures show that about 110,000 young people have chosen to remain unemployed rather than take up the offer of a place on the scheme which provides a 12-month "foundation" course of on and off-the-job training.

A report from the Council called into question the willingness of its members to continue supporting the scheme if the Government insists on cuts of up to 30 per cent in the section of the scheme devoted mainly to community projects.

That was followed by a survey conducted by Youthaid a pressure group working on behalf of young people, which

said that unemployed young people were rejecting the scheme because it was being run on the cheap and provided only a 50-50 chance of a full-time job at the end.

The Manpower Services Commission, which operates the scheme, has responded to criticisms and the Government's insistence in cuts in the second year of the programme by instituting a review by the Youth Training Board which advises on its operating.

Originally the scheme was to provide 460,000 places for young people, but so far only 325,000 have been taken up. The target for places next year has already been cut to 413,000.

The Government and the commission have argued that the main reason for the shortfall has been that young people have decided to stay at school for further education or have been successful in finding a full-time job.

The Youth aid report says, however, that Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, gave figures to the Commons showing that one third of the 330,000 unemployed 16-year-olds had decided to stay on the dole.

Mr Paul Lewis, Youthaid director, said last night: "We hope the Government will take our report to heart and consider ways of improving the training and offering something positive at the end. Otherwise the Youth Training Scheme is doomed to mediocrity."

### YOUTH TRAINING SCHEME

	Places offered (Jan 84)	Entra (Jan 84)	Proposed for next year
Industry-based	319,537	226,900	322,874
Community-based	90,272	74,360	71,554
Mainly in colleges	32,047	23,800	18,576
Total	441,856	325,060	413,004

Source: Manpower Services Commission

## Naval refits leak starts mole hunt

By Rodney Cowton, Defence Correspondent

The Ministry of Defence has begun an inquiry into the leaking of a report recommending that the refitting of British warships and Polaris submarines should be placed in the hands of private contractors.

The report by Mr Peter Levene, personal adviser to Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence, has come into the hands of Mr Gordon Brown, Labour MP for Dunfermline East.

Mr Brown said yesterday that the report recommended that, although the Ministry of Defence should retain the ownership of the Royal Dockyards at Devonport and Rosyth, private industry should be allowed to tender for the right to operate them.

Mr Brown has tabled 17 questions for written answer in the Commons. He criticized the report for failing to consider the issue of national security raised by the possibility of allowing private contractors to carry out maintenance work on Polaris submarines.

He said that the six-page typewritten report did not put forward any arguments to demonstrate inefficiency in the dockyards.

He was concerned that Mr Levene, who is chairman of an important defence contractor, United Scientific Holdings, and vice-chairman of the Defence Manufacturers' Association, was in a position to recommend giving £500m of work a year to the private sector.

"It is clear to me that there is a conflict of interest between Mr Levene's private position and his work as an adviser to the Ministry of Defence," Mr Brown said.

The report indicates that Mr Levene's proposals have received the informal approval of the Admiralty Board of the Defence Council, and that he is now preparing a more detailed study which will be completed by the end of this month.

The report is understood to say that the efficiency of the dockyards cannot be judged because the accounting system is "entirely meaningless" in commercial terms.

The Ministry of Defence said it appeared that the document had been given unauthorized distribution and inquiries were being made to discover the source.

## Police switch search for McGlinchey wife to Eire

Detectives throughout Ireland are still searching for the wife of Dominic McGlinchey who is wanted for questioning in connection with terrorist crimes in the North. (Richard Ford writes from Belfast).

Mrs Mary McGlinchey is also wanted by the police in the Republic in connection with the false imprisonment of an officer in Cork last December.

At that time it was believed that Mrs McGlinchey, from Toome, Co Antrim, was heavily pregnant and police think she may be in a safe house in the Republic rather than in France. Royal Ulster Constabulary want to question her in connection with the murder of Police Constable Colin Carson at a security check

point in Cookstown, in Co Tyrone last May and think she can help them identify a woman who fired a volley of shots over the coffin of Gerard Mallon, an Irish National Liberation Army terrorist. He died last August during an abortive ambush at Dungannon, Co Tyrone.

Leading article, page 13

## Gerry Adams out of hospital

Mr Gerry Adams, the Sinn Féin leader, left hospital yesterday, five days after being shot and wounded in Belfast. He has been under constant guard at the city's Royal Victoria Hospital since he was hit in the shoulder, arm and neck.

## Observer inquiry

A Scotland Yard report on allegations that a former Ministry of Defence official leaked information to *The Observer* is being studied by the Director of Public Prosecution (DPP), Stewart Tendler writes.

The report was confirmed yesterday by a spokesman for Sir Thomas Heatherington, the DPP, after the *Daily Mail* reported allegations by a former member of the ministry that he was paid £1,000 by *The Observer* for information on which two articles were based last autumn. The man admitted he had been interviewed by the police.

The spokesman for the DPP said an interim report had been received from Det. Chief Supt Ronald Hardy, of Scotland Yard's CI department, and investigations were continuing.

The information passed to *The Observer* is alleged to refer to oversteering of defence projects, the failures of some armaments, and claims that costs were deliberately concealed from scrutiny.

Mr Donald Treford, editor of *The Observer*, said yesterday: "We have not been approached by the police over this story." He was asked if the newspaper had paid any money to the former official. He replied: "We are not prepared to talk about that."

Overseas selling prices  
Austria 50p; Belgium 50p; Canada 50p; Denmark 50p; France 50p; Germany 50p; Greece 50p; Hong Kong 50p; India 50p; Italy 50p; Japan 50p; Korea 50p; Malaysia 50p; Mexico 50p; New Zealand 50p; Norway 50p; Portugal 50p; Singapore 50p; South Africa 50p; Spain 50p; Sweden 50p; Switzerland 50p; Taiwan 50p; Thailand 50p; Turkey 50p; USA 50p; West Germany 50p.

## Fashion comes alive

Number 6 in a series



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## Prison for benefit claim couple who 'lived it up on proceeds of crime'

From Our Correspondent, Winchester

A man who claimed more than £9,000 in state benefits while he and his family were "living it up on the proceeds of crime" was jailed for five years by Winchester Crown Court yesterday.

His wife, who wrote to the Prime Minister claiming that they were destitute and asking her to help them to obtain more benefit, was jailed for two years.

The court was told that later Stanley Cutts, aged 57, and his wife Christine, aged 56, lived in a large detached house and ran two cars and a caravan and their two daughters were being privately educated.

They ran a successful industrial cleaning company and a video hire business with assets of £60,000.

After two trials lasting two weeks, Cutts was sent to prison for five years and three months, after being found guilty of 15 charges of deception, four of forgery, and the theft of a car.

Judge McCreery, QC, told him: "You are a mean, snivelling, and contemptible old fraud. You thought you could

lie your way out like you have done before, but it is a tribute to the jury that you did not pull the wool over their eyes."

His wife was found guilty of 10 deception offences, one of forgery and two of aiding and abetting her husband to obtain credit while a bankrupt.

The judge told her: "You are an accomplished liar. If fairly told one's breath away to see you writing to the Prime Minister begging for more money and saying you were homeless and destitute when the truth was you were living it up on the proceeds of crime."

The court heard that the couple drew social security while living in rented accommodation in Reading, Berkshire.

They changed their name to Smythe and bought a £40,000 house in Andover, Hampshire, where they ran their companies.

When arrested in January, 1982, they owed their bank £25,000, £4,000 to credit card companies, £8,000 to creditors of a video library, and hundreds of pounds in hire purchase payments.

Mr Roger Titheridge QC, for the prosecution, had told the court: "I do not know whether the letter to Mrs Thatcher did the trick, but they certainly managed to get extra payments."

"Mrs Cutts explained that her husband was unfit for work because of a nervous breakdown and to exist they had sold all their furniture and clothes. She said they were homeless and penniless and Mr Cutts was forced to live in a car."

"She appealed to Mrs Thatcher as a wife and mother herself and asked if someone in authority could bring the torment to an end."

Mrs Cutts used false names to open accounts at Harrods and other stores and her husband obtained thousands of pounds in credit by using an alias and failing to reveal he was an undischarged bankrupt.

Cutts denied all the charges, claiming he had been persecuted by Thames Valley Police. His wife, who also denied all the charges, told the court: "I changed the family name in the hope of starting a new life. I never intended to deceive anyone."

## Shops deal for Austin Rover

By Clifford Webb

Motoring Correspondent

Austin Rover announced yesterday that its cars are to be sold by a leading chain of West German hypermarkets. It is believed to be the first time a stores group has invested in a separate car dealership.

Under a second deal announced yesterday, Austin Rover will beat Japanese rivals to be first into the fast growing Indian market with a locally assembled luxury car.

The Mass Group of West Germany has agreed to build separate showrooms and workshops at its out-of-town hypermarkets to handle the British cars exclusively.

There have in the past been occasions when stores sold cars but they were mainly temporary deals which failed through lack of specialist sales and service staff and inadequate facilities.

The Rover executive saloon will be produced in a factory to be built at Madras by one of India's oldest motor companies.

Standard Motor Products of India (SMP) is paying £10m for 12,000 Rover parts, kits, and body sub-assemblies, which will be mated with a Rover 2.5-litre diesel engine it has been manufacturing under licence since 1980. There will also be a new Indian-developed and manufactured two-litre petrol engine.

## Hospital closures plan for London

By Thomson Prentice

At least two general hospitals in London will be closed and about 2,000 National Health Service beds withdrawn in the next few years to take account of the population shift from the capital and changing priorities in health care, according to proposals announced yesterday.

About £50m a year in the cost of acute hospital services will have to be redistributed by 1994 to match the movement of people away from London, and to improve services for priority groups of patients such as the elderly, the mentally ill, and the handicapped, the North West Thames Regional Health Authority said.

In planning documents published yesterday, the authority said that London had more acute beds for every 1,000 people than the rest of the country, waiting time for operations was often shorter in central London than in many other areas, and that a population shift from the city to Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire required better hospital facilities to be provided there.

The implications are that two or three district general hospitals in London would need to be closed, the document said. "In addition, the smaller hospitals throughout the region would need to move their local acute beds to the nearby district general hospital. The small hospitals could be used for priority service or closed."

According to estimates arrived at with the aid of computer studies, 11 of the health authority's 15 districts already have, or are likely to have too many hospital beds for the expected demand by patients in the 1990s.

The region's administrator, Mr David Kenny, would not name any individual hospital that might close when he discussed the proposals yesterday. But he confirmed that the areas likely to be affected include Barnet, Hillingdon, Paddington, north Kensington, and Victoria.

"We are not going to start negotiating on individual districts, let alone individual hospitals, until we are certain we have the overall principles right," he said.

The planning document was being distributed widely to district authorities and other interested parties as a consultative paper, and comments and submissions were being sought by the authority by May 11. The authority was committed to going back to the Department of Health and Social Security in November with its strategy for health care provision in the 1990s.

Mr Kenny said that whatever closures were decided eventually, the hospitals involved could not be closed in under two years. There would not be many redundancies, he said.

## Cabman seeks damages over prison injection

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

A High Court judge was asked yesterday to award exemplary damages to a minicab driver who claims that he was unlawfully injected with the drug Largactil by prison officers at Brixton prison, London.

Mr Paul Barbara, aged 41, of St Katherine's Way, Tower Hamlets, east London, said three officers committed unlawful assault and battery and trespass by injecting him with the tranquillizer without his consent while he was a remand prisoner.

In an action against the Home Office, he is seeking damages for the assault and exemplary damages.

The Home Office has admitted liability but is contesting the exemplary damages which, if awarded, could run to several thousands of pounds.

Mr Barbara's counsel, Mr Louis Blom-Cooper, QC, told Mr Justice Legatt: "Not to award the additional damages would be to sanction official behaviour by prison officers that, in our submission, reflects the first step towards the kind of abuse of psychiatric treatment that one associates with the Soviet Union."

Mr Andrew Collins, for the

Home Office, said there has been "some degree of confusion" in the instruction given to the officers. "That confusion was, it is accepted, at least negligent," he said.

Mr Blom-Cooper said Mr Barbara had a criminal record and in the 1960s was treated for paranoid schizophrenia. He was arrested on June 5, 1978, after police officers found him under the influence of drink and waving a sword, making "mock attacks" on passers-by.

The next day he was remanded in custody charged with having an offensive weapon and detained at Brixton. While he was there two attempts were made to administer Largactil to him in a plastic cup. He spat out the first and threw away the second, Mr Blom-Cooper said.

He said three prison officers arrived and told him they were going to inject him with the drug. Mr Barbara told them he was not consenting but would not resist, he said.

A report from the prison hospital occurrences book described Mr Barbara as a "bloody-minded, demanding, paranoid type" but there was no note of aggressive behaviour nor of the injection, he said.

The hearing continues today.

## Woman drove at M5 cars

A woman who twice drove down the M5 motorway in the wrong direction hitting and chasing cars and lorries has been disqualified from driving for five years and placed on probation for three years.

Mrs Pauline Ford, aged 39, of Brisham Road, Brixham, Devon, pleaded guilty at Exeter Crown Court yesterday to driving recklessly on the night of January 6, last year.

Ford, driving a Cortina, had forced a car and two lorries to stop and then rammed them. She also forced a car driven by a Bury St Edmunds special constable, Mr Peter Payne, to stop, tried to ram him, and then chased him in reverse.

She finally hit a barrier and came to a halt. She told Mr Payne, who took her keys: "It was good fun". She had been suffering a mental disorder.

## Gold salvage deal won dishonestly, court told

A contract to salvage Russian gold which went to the bottom of the sea during the Second World War was won dishonestly, the Central Criminal Court was told yesterday.

The diving operation to recover the gold from the bomb room of the sunken HMS Edinburgh was brilliant, Mr Michael Worsley, for the prosecution, said.

However Mr John Jackson, a senior official of the Salvage Association and his friend, Mr Keith Jessop, a skilled diver, stooped to dishonesty and saying "nasty false things" to try to ensure that the contract went to a consortium run by Mr Jessop, Mr Worsley said.

Mr Jackson, aged 56, of St John's Street, Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire, and Mr Jessop, aged 49, of Fern Court, Keighley, West Yorkshire, pleaded not guilty to five charges under the Official Secrets Act.

Mr Jackson was alleged to have disclosed classified information to Mr Jessop to advance the interests of the consortium. It was also claimed that the pair agreed to mislead a review



Family tradition: Gina Campbell on Agfa Bluebird with her father's mascot (Photograph: Tony Lewis).

## A Campbell is to race again

By Alan Hamilton

Miss Gina Campbell intends to become the third generation of her family to attempt the hazardous business of establishing speed records on water.

Miss Campbell, aged 34, is the daughter of Donald Campbell, who died in 1967 attempting to break his world water speed record on Coniston Water, and granddaughter of Sir Malcolm Campbell, who held world records on land and water.

Yesterday, at St Katherine's Dock, London, Miss Campbell unveiled the £25,000 Phantom

monohull powerboat, with two 175hp outboard engines, with which she hopes to enter record books. Her present ambitions are, however, modest compared with those of her father, who drove his boat Bluebird to 276.33mph.

Miss Campbell and her co-driver, Mr Michael Standridge, aged 28, will attempt to break the 90mph record for class IHD powerboats on Windermere in October.

Mrs Daphne Shaw, Donald Campbell's widow, was on hand

yesterday with a well shaken bottle of champagne to name the new boat Agfa Bluebird, maintaining the historic family name, while advertising the sponsor.

Clutching her father's teddy-bear mascot recovered from the wreckage of the earlier Bluebird, Miss Campbell said that the circumstances of his death, when the boat somersaulted through the air at nearly 300mph, had not dissuaded her from powerboat racing. "That was a one-off thing, lightning never strikes twice."

## Lay-by car blown up by mistake

A soldier's attempt at wiring up his own stereo system ended in disaster yesterday when the bomb squad blew up his car in a lay-by near York.

Private Jeremy Holmsborn, aged 18, who is attached to The Prince of Wales's Own Regiment of Yorkshire, stationed at Strensall, York, had abandoned his newly acquired car after running out of petrol.

Police patrols saw it and became suspicious after noting its Northern Ireland registration. A closer inspection disclosed wires running from the dashboard to an object underneath a blanket on the back seat.

A bomb squad unit was called and the York to Hull Road at Grymston Hill was sealed off while army experts used a remote control robot to blast open the car boot. They discovered a stereo and two speakers.

Yesterday as police cleared away debris, Private Holmsborn turned up with a can of petrol, spokesman for the bomb disposal unit said: "A ladies' lavatory in a lay-by may not seem a likely target for terrorists, but we can't take chances."

## Daily Star to pay libel damages

An American businessman, Mr Maurice Tempelmeier, won substantial undisclosed libel damages in the High Court yesterday over allegations in the *Daily Star* that he had denied that his marriage was in trouble while at the time living with another woman.

The newspaper's editor, and publishers, Express Newspapers, accepted that the allegations, made in 2 January, 1981, were without foundation and agreed to pay damages and legal costs.

Mr Worsley said that the case centred on the task of salvaging the Edinburgh's cargo, worth £45m, lost when the 10,000 ton cruiser was torpedoed by German submarines in the Barents Sea in 1942.

The Soviet Government had sent a consignment of gold to the allies in payment for arms supplies. It was not until the late 1970s that the British and Soviet governments got together to arrange for salvage.

The Department of Trade and Industry employed the long-established Salvage Association to negotiate. A salvage contract was eventually awarded to the consortium run by Mr Jessop.

The consortium's achievement in recovering almost all of the gold was brilliant, Mr Worsley said. Modern diving skills and techniques made the job possible.

The trial continues today.

## Surveyors expect big home price rises

By Christopher Warman

Property Correspondent

Indications that house prices will rise considerably this spring are contained in the latest survey by the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, published yesterday.

There was a sharp upward trend in prices in the quarter ended in February, before the boost given by the Budget measures and the reduction in mortgage interest rate announced last week.

Half the agents taking part in the institution's survey of the market in England and Wales reported price rises of 2 per cent and 14 per cent reported rises of 5 per cent.

In the South-east, the trend has been more marked, with nearly a third of agents reporting rises of more than 5 per cent. In some parts of the region the rise has reached 8 per cent.

Commenting on the figures, Mr John Thomas, housing market spokesman for the institution, said that, with few exceptions, agents were reporting a buoyant market stimulated by improved prospects for the economy and a more regular supply of mortgage money.

This surge has come a little earlier than was predicted in earlier comments and is likely to continue now at least until mid-summer, he said.

The reduction in stamp duty announced in the Budget and the reduced interest rate would "give an even greater confidence to the market", but he did not believe that the price rises would turn into a boom.

The handful of the 294 firms in the survey which reported a stagnant market were those practising in areas of high unemployment.

## Children's plays fall foul of fire rules

By Lucy Hodges

Education correspondent

School plays, pantomimes, concerts, and dances are being cancelled because of a law that says that public entertainments must be licensed and buildings fitted with a required number of fire escapes and illuminated signs.

The National Confederation of Parent-Teacher Associations (PTAs), concerned about the cancellation of many school shows last Christmas, is seeking a meeting with Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science.

District councils, particularly in Norfolk, have been refusing licences to schools on the ground of public safety under the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1982.

The Department of Education and Science said: "It has always been understood that normal school functions, including those of parent-teacher associations, such as pantomimes, dances, and discos to which children, parents, teachers, and relations come are not classified as public performances."

"Therefore they do not fall within the scope of the Act. We are hoping that the Home Office, which has responsibility for this piece of legislation, will issue guidelines."

The Home Office said that it had been approached by Norfolk yesterday and told the county council that performances for members of a PTA and their invited guests did not require licences. If shows in schools were open to a wider audience they would need a licence. It said it would similarly advise all local authorities that approached it.

## BCal raises stakes in air routes battle

By Michael Bailey, Transport Editor

The battle between British Airways and British Caledonian intensified yesterday when Sir Adam Thomson, chairman of BCal, confirmed that his airline would seek a £100m to £150m stock market flotation this autumn, well ahead of British Airways flotation.

He confirmed that BCal would attempt to transfer its operations to Heathrow from Gatwick, if it were not granted some British Airways routes as part of the privatization. This would be a severe blow to the Government's policy of developing Gatwick as London's second airport.

Sir Adam disclosed that BCal had raised the stakes since calling for a £200m route and asset transfer from British Airways last year and was now seeking a £300m transfer. That would leave BA with 60 per cent of Britain's scheduled routes, with 30 per cent for BCal, and 10 per cent for the rest.

He reported a £3.3m profit for 1983, up from £1.5m in 1982.

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## Collector robbed of old people's home pensions

A man aged 79 was yesterday robbed of £3,000 of pension money and pension books he was collecting for other residents at an old people's home.

Mr Miles Weeks had walked the 150 yards from the post office every week for five years, carrying the cash in a plastic carrier bag.

The men snatched the bag, also containing 50 pension books, a few yards from Woodfield Lodge Old People's Home in St Marychurch Road, Torquay, shortly after 10am.

Det-Constable Clive Gordon said: "They could not have made it easier if they tried. I am just astonished it never happened before."

Mr Weeks, a former hotel

worker, said: "I have done it so many times it does not worry me anymore. But I would never go on my own again, I would take someone with me."

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Mr Weeks, a former hotel

Mr Weeks: "I will never go alone again".



# Micro-electronics gets package of support

## THE BUDGET

Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, opening the final day of the budget debate in the Commons, outlined six extensions of Government support for research and development. These were, he said, part and parcel of the Government's general objective of rewarding initiative and innovation.

They included special provision to encourage the use of technologically advanced equipment by small and medium-sized firms in the clothing, footwear, knitting and textile industries.

There would also be a new micro-electronic industry support programme providing £120m of Government support up to 1990.

He said that since the budget the Opposition, as ever, had announced the end of the world as they knew it. The Government had been criticized for taking so long over abolition of national insurance surcharge, abolition of special tax on labour and of the extension of VAT to fish and chips.

As an act of charity one should forget Mr Neil Kinnock's most forgettable speech last Tuesday.

What had happened in the real world since the budget? Interest rates had fallen by about 1 per cent to the lowest for nearly six years; building societies had cut mortgage rates by 1 per cent; share prices had risen.

As a result of the policies of the past few years, Britain was leading Europe out of the recession; growth of gross domestic product in 1983 and expected growth in 1984 were the highest of the Community partners, a position to which Britain was not accustomed, least of all under Labour government.

To meet our industrial and economic performance, to create the wealth we need, (he said), we need to reduce costs, to remove the distortions in the economy and provide an environment in which drive, effort and determination will be rewarded. The budget does all of those.

It had been the governments' stated objective to abolish national insurance surcharge within the lifetime of this Parliament and it had done it at the first opportunity, in the first budget of this Parliament.

Mr Shore had called for its abolition last year. What a pity he had imposed it in the first place. The abolition would be worth £150m to private industry in a full year, which was a measure of the burden it had been over the years.

The halving of stamp duty on share transactions would give a welcome boost to the international competitiveness of London as a financial centre and earner of foreign currency. The 2 per cent stamp duty imposed unfavourably on the rates in Britain's EEC partners and more particularly with those in the United States.

No doubt the economy would also grow faster as other distortions were removed. The government was moving to a clearer and simpler system of corporation tax entirely in keeping with that approach.

The lower rates of corporation tax had been warmly welcomed by business. In two years' time industry would be paying corporation tax at 35 per cent, a reduction of one-third in the current rate. The small companies' rate of corporation tax would fall immediately to 30 per cent, the same level as the basic rate of income tax.

The large tax concessions given to favoured investment, successful or not, had reduced the cost of that investment by up to 52 per cent and more when financed through borrowing. They relieved industrialists from the cost of inefficiency or failure but had to be paid for by the tax bills of those who were not successful.

That system could no longer be justified. Businesses would be left to take their decisions on economic and industrial factors and not as they often did in the past by thinking about where the tax breaks lay.

What incentive could there be for risk taking when the state gave up over half the profits of success and the cost of failure was minimized by the tax system?

There was a consistent link between reducing the capital allowance and abolishing NIS. The Government wanted to remove distortions to the character of investment and leave those decisions in the hands of investors guided not by tax relief but the prospect of return.

The bias imposed in the past (he went on) by the structure of corporation tax and NIS which was inherited was discretionary against labour. How odd it is that the

Labour Party should tax labour and subsidize capital and then have to leave it to us, the capitalists, to put things right.

All these reforms shared a common purpose. In the treatment of capital investment overall and treatment of regional investment the Government's aim would be the same: to improve the productivity of investment and end the distortion caused by favouring capital over labour.

Not the least important of the Chancellor's announcements was his statement that the tax changes would lead to a reduction of at least 1,000 in the number of tax gatherers. One thousand tax gatherers fewer meant perhaps as many as 10,000 fewer tax accounts.

Those efforts and skills could be transferred from sterile conflict to more useful tasks.

Mr Tebbit went on to make a number of announcements about further spending designed to ensure that industry used efficient and technologically advanced equipment and took steps to keep abreast of modern developments.

Advanced manufacturing technology was crucial to improving industrial competitiveness, he said. The initial allocation of £25m to the flexible manufacturing systems scheme, announced in 1982, was close to being committed. There was continuing heavy demand. There would be a further £20m for advanced manufacturing technology.

Design and quality was increasingly recognized as a vital link between the company's productive capacity and the market it served. He was therefore extending the design advisory service funded consultancy scheme so that smaller companies could benefit from it. He would also make available another £5m for the department's successful quality management scheme.

The original £25m for software products was now almost fully committed and he had decided to continue the scheme and to provide further funding of £12m to carry it through to mid-1985.

Information technology centres had been successful since they were announced in 1981. He had decided to increase the number of centres, which would now benefit from his department's financial support, from 150 to 175.

He also intended to make special provision to encourage the use of technologically advanced equipment by small and medium sized firms in the clothing, footwear, knitting and textile industries. They were important industries and accounted for 10 per cent of manufacturing employment. Their exports last year were worth more than £2,000m.

They were affected by intense competition and their ability to invest in the technologically advanced machinery now available had been eroded by the recession. This had hit particularly the small and medium-sized firms and many cases they were outstanding examples of improved productivity.

He intended to provide £20m under Section 8 of the Industrial Development Act 1982 for a scheme to operate across broadly the same lines as the successful small engineering firms investment schemes.

There would be a list of technologically advanced equipment of a type used in these industries and for which small and medium sized firms in the industry would be eligible for an investment grant, probably of up to 20 per cent.

This scheme and some of the others he had announced would have to be discussed with the European Commission so he could not give further details of the textile scheme yet. But as part of the design advisory consultancy scheme he was making a special allocation of £1.5m over three years to allow a further 100 companies a year in these industries to benefit broadly.

Some special arrangements to encourage design in this industry were also being announced today. Electronics was a major factor in

industry's ability to innovate and hence in its future prosperity was its use of electronics. The importance of micro-electronics was recognized in the original micro electronics industry support programme launched in 1978. Its £55m funds were fully committed and he expected that total investment encouraged by the scheme to be about £70m.

For the remainder of the 1980s it was estimated that the United Kingdom micro-electronics industry needed to spend more than £1,000m in the development and production of integrated circuits alone if it was to maintain a growth rate in line with worldwide trends. So there would be a new micro-electronics industry support programme to provide £120m of Government support up to 1990.

Grants would be available for development, production and use of micro-electronic components. This would help to ensure that the results of the longer-term research programme would be carried over into commercial products.

These six extensions (he said) of our existing policy of support for research and development in part and parcel of our general approach towards rewarding initiative and innovation.

The Government has created the conditions for a more efficient and dynamic business sector in which there is an opportunity for individuals and companies to strike, to seek and to gain and to be rewarded.

This is a budget for enterprise, for risk taking. It is a budget for jobs. It is all these because it is a budget for business.

Whatever criticisms may come from those who oppose it, it is already clear that it is a budget which will be welcomed by our wealth creators, even if not yet understood by those who constantly criticize every success and constantly hope for further failures.

Mr Peter Shore, chief Opposition spokesman on trade and industry, said the Chancellor might yet learn that the ingenuity in budget making with a strong bias towards wealth and the City was no lasting substitute for diagnosis and preserving Britain's aims.

Mr Tebbit had outlined crumbs of comfort which must be seen in the context of a trade and industry budget which had suffered more severe cuts than any other in the Government's 1984-85 and the years ahead. What Mr Tebbit had announced were carefully judged stimuli equal to £0,003 of gross domestic product.

The most ludicrous label put on the budget was the Chancellor's own, that it was a budget for new jobs. This had been reiterated by Mr Tebbit. But the budget had largely set the scene for the construction of public spending over the next few years and also the accelerated horse sale of public sector assets.

Britain's overseas trade had benefited from the massive output and export of North Sea oil. This had enabled the country to show a substantial balance of payments surplus in each of the last three years.

While exports in both volume and value of North Sea oil had risen year by year, the size of Britain's overall trade surplus had been declining.

This happy period of overall surplus (he said) was coming to an end. It is my view that this will prove to be the Achilles heel of the whole Government strategy.

Last year for the first time in our history we imported more manufactured goods than we actually exported.

Trade in manufactured goods had declined from a surplus of £4,800m in 1981 to a deficit of £2,100m last year.

Worship of the deities of money supply had produced cruel effects. For the past year or more Britain had been the most inflationary country in the world - price of money over the rate of inflation - than at any time this century. This was a devastating imposition on industrial costs.

Money supply policies together with the Government's strategy of division an amendment giving a customer who had suffered as a result of a breach of duty by the telecommunications operator the right to sue for the damage without waiting for a ruling on the matter by the Director General of Telecommunications.

The proposal was resisted by Lord Mackay of Clashfern, the Lord Advocate, but was carried by 113 votes to 102 - majority against the Government, 11.

Lord Morris (C) pressed to a

## Tebbit: Innovation.

With high interest rates and high exchange rates would continue to be the most devastating effects on the balance of payments, industrial output and the level of employment.

It was no good Mr Lawson saying productivity in industry increased last year by 6 per cent as it increased the previous year by 5 per cent. If that increase in productivity was swamped by the decline in international competitiveness because of the overall level of the exchange rate then Britain did not gain competitiveness in the struggle for world markets, it lost it.

There was danger of a continuing decline in manufacturing industry and also in the service economy. The prospects were not bright for the construction industry. An additional 15 per cent VAT would fall on the improvement of buildings of all kinds in an industry which was already flat. This was criminal and absurd.

When he considered what had happened in the past four years, and what was proposed for the next four, he had a feeling of utmost trepidation for the future.

It is simply intolerable (he said) to think that a great nation and the ingenuity of the British people should be reduced to a state of a clapped-out, right-wing, pseudo-intellectual philosophy.

Mr Edward Heath, the former Prime Minister (Old Bealey and Sidcup, C), said Mr Shore had worked himself up into a state of a clapped-out, right-wing, pseudo-intellectual philosophy.

Mr Lawson's objective of reducing the overall burden of taxation to 1974 levels was a worthy one, but it was doubtful he could achieve it.

Mr Lawson was undertaking obligations of a kind which no other Chancellor had undertaken in the past.

What some of us would not be prepared to see (he added) is valued judgments being disregarded because the Chancellor says we must stick to what he has said about corporation tax.

He welcomed the abolition of the national insurance surcharge, but doubted whether it would lead to more jobs.

Composite rates for banks would save a Treasury manpower but put extra manpower burdens on to the banks.

VAT on takeaway food appeared to have created further anomalies and the question was whether the Chancellor should not remove the remaining anomalies next time.

He was sad about the removal of the 30-day overseas arrangement because it concerned mostly people who spent their lives travelling to export goods for Britain. He did not believe many deliberately stayed away for 28 or 30 days to get this advantage. It meant firms would have to pay their salesmen more to make up for it.

Seamen would suffer. Shipowners would have to pay additional amounts to the seamen to make up for it. So although this measure benefited the Chancellor it put an additional burden on the firm.

They should recognize the major part salesmen played in the country's life. They had never had the status and esteem they should have.

The commentators and analysts agreed the budget moved towards services and away from manufacturing. He thought this was undesirable. He had heard a great deal about out-of-date industries. This was a concept one ought to examine with great care. They had passed through a variety of phases. There had been phases of mergers, of conglomerates, the phase when everything small was beautiful and when the big was the one thing that mattered.

They had discovered that mergers often led to such large concerns they

## Heath: Essential industries.

Could not be managed properly. Conglomerates led to such a variety of organizations that no management was able to control them.

In the last two years they had seen how difficult it was for small companies not only to start but to continue because the rate of bankruptcies for small companies had been extraordinarily high. It was equally wrong to say they were now going to live on services. They could not just live on a diet of microchips and home computers.

Were the steel, shipbuilding and car making industries outdated? Of course not. In other countries the steel and coal and engineering industries were essential industries, and they were also essential for the country, if only from the point of view of defence and that was important enough. These were vital industries.

Regarding personal taxation, he asked the Chancellor to consider in future whether increasing child allowances would be more effective to the simple increase of the single or married person's allowances.

The Treasury ought to set out the budget so that expenditure was given in the form of current grants, expenditure and capital account expenditure. That was vital to an understanding of what the Government was trying to do in the money markets of the world.

Replying to Mr Matthew Parris (West Derbyshire, C), Mr Ridley said there were about 1,200 express services running in 1980 and 700 new services were added by last summer.

Mr Parris in considering these services would be well to remember that the last major constraint to further development of coach services is the difficulty of getting in and out of London and the need for a new terminus in London?

Will he encourage British Rail and the National Bus Company to reach a sensible agreement over the use of Marylebone Station and the line out of it?

Mr Ridley: I agree these figures are startling and show just what competition has been in the industry. A new terminal is a more difficult matter. It is for the railways to obtain consent for the closure of the line at Marylebone Station and I would have to decide that issue on appeal.

The railways are required by the Transport Acts to sell for the maximum price they can get and it is impossible to speculate whether that will result in it going to a bus terminal.

Mr Dale Campbell-Savours (Wokingham, Lab): Cheap express coach fares have been introduced at a cost to motorway safety with increased coach accidents. The cheapest fares have been introduced at a cost to motorway safety with increased coach accidents. The cheapest fares have been introduced at a cost to motorway safety with increased coach accidents.

Mr Ridley: I agree we must be concerned about coach safety and action has been taken as far as possible to enforce speed limits on motorways. The connection between accidents and speed is not well established.

Coach services provide extremely cheap transport, probably the cheapest over inter-city distances.

Mr Peter Smaug, an Opposition spokesman on transport, will be speaking at the National Bus

Postal codes

In January 1984 56 per cent of all mail used the postal code, Mr David Trippier, Under Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, indicated in a Commons written reply.

He said the revised standard had almost been completed by the BSI and would be published shortly. New regulations would follow as soon as possible.

When the BSI had finished its review on prison safety standards, he would announce new regulations to cover these.

Day of action

A total of 165,300 civil servants took part in the TUC's day of action on February 28 for varying periods, Mr Barney Hayhoe, Minister of State, Treasury, said.

By David Walker

The government knows how much it spends in law courts and it can measure what they produce by way of convictions and jail terms, but it has only a hazy idea whether the public gets value for money for the process in between.

This is the conclusion of two Bath University academics who say that "stops" to ensure efficiency and effective management in the courts are needed.

Writing in *Public Money* yesterday they argue that it is wrong to link the cost of the courts, about £200m a year, with the revenue from fines, which amounts to over £100m. This is because there are no figures for the cost of court decisions on the rest of the public sector, especially the police and prisons.

In the article Mr Roger Bowles and Mr Rod Morgan claim that efficient management of the courts suffers from overlap of responsibility between the Home Office and local authorities, which pay about 20 per cent of the cost.

Public Money (1, Buckingham Place, London SW1E 6HS, £5)

## TRANSPORT

Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for Transport, admitted during Commons questions that advice that heavy lorries exceeding the weight limit should not be prosecuted unless there was overloading by more than 10 per cent was sent out by an official in his Department without his knowledge.

Mr William van Stranbeek (Wokingham, C) had asked if Mr Ridley was satisfied with the operation on roads for which he was responsible of the weight limit for heavy commercial vehicles.

Mr Ridley: I want to get more effective enforcement of the law against overloaded lorries. It is for the licensing authorities and other enforcement agencies to decide on the best means of doing this.

What I am sure is increasing the resources available to the licensing authorities in the field force of traffic examiners and in providing many more weighbridges.

I will ensure that lack of resources does not inhibit their enforcement work.

Sir William van Stranbeek: It was an essential quid pro quo for the increasing weight limits that there should be strict enforcement in relation to those increased limits. Recent prosecution figures, particu-

larly in Kent for obvious reasons, are at least, to put it mildly, disturbing.

Mr Ridley: I entirely agree. Any deficiencies in staff for the licensing authorities are being put right. The extra facilities we have provided give traffic examiners all the resources they need to make sure that the law is enforced. It can be either by prohibiting lorries from proceeding, quite a severe penalty in some cases, or by prosecution or both.

Mr Tim Rathbone (Lewes, C): I welcome his reassurance about the amount of funds being made available for this. It is also most welcome to hear that he is seeking better ways of controlling lorry weights. I plead with him to reassert the philosophy of divine discontent on this policy.

Mr Ridley: Enforcement is a matter for the enforcement authorities, not me. It is exactly the same relationship as the Home Secretary has with the police. He can give them the powers, but after that it is up to them to enforce the law.

There has been much more activity which will have its deterrent effect as well as catching those who are currently evading the law.

Mr James Callaghan (Heywood and Middleton, Lab): In the light of the report in the weekend newspapers about damage to the London bridges by heavy commercial

vehicles, is he taking steps to ensure the safety of the public on these bridges?

Mr Ridley: The only bridge I know of where there has been damage is Hammersmith Bridge. It has a 12 ton limit which has been exceeded by buses which can weigh up to 15 tons. Heavy lorries cannot be blamed for that.

Mr Roger Meate (Faversham, C): A letter has been sent out by a number of licensing authorities saying that the prosecution of heavy lorries exceeding the limit should not take place unless the lorry was overloaded by more than 10 per cent. How does he reconcile this with his intentions and the statutory limit imposed by Parliament?

Mr Ridley: Those instructions were sent out by licensing authorities, not sent out by licensing authorities. They were sent out by an official in my Department without the knowledge of myself or my Minister of State (Mrs Lynda Chalker).

That letter was designed to co-ordinate the activities of different licensing authorities and it pointed out that prohibition from proceeding was a very effective way of enforcing the limit. That is exactly what it has done.

Mr Peter Smaug (West Bromwich East, Lab), for the Opposition: The House will be grateful for that confession which contradicts the two denials he has so far made about the origins of this circular.

Public subsidies, he said, should not be used simply to finance businesses but all passengers. He wanted to see the development of "upstairs-downstairs" service on British Rail.

Mr Mitchell said these were matters for British Rail's commercial judgement, and if they judged that this was the most effective way to increase customer satisfaction, so they should proceed.

Mr David Mitchell, Under Secretary of State for Transport, said he intends to travel on the Settle-Carlisle railway line before there is a decision on its future, he told the House during questions.

Minister to visit Derby to see APT

The advanced passenger train is not being progressed by British Rail at the present time, Mr David Mitchell, Under Secretary of State for Transport, said during Commons questions. Principally, this would be where there were none at present.

He said the private sector had not come forward with acceptable proposals for on-train catering on major services.

There were about 70 private sector catering facilities on station, and more were planned. He was pressing British Rail to make further progress.

Mr Timothy Yee (Suffolk South, C) had complained that there were

many frustrated British Rail customers who tried to get refreshments but could not.

Mr John Prescott, chief Opposition spokesman on transport, asked about BR management's decision to cut second class passengers from sitting down to breakfast because of the extraordinary demands of expense account businessmen.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Debate on PAC reports. Lords (2.30): Telecommunications Bill, report, third day.

Updating of pushchair regulations

Safety regulations covering pushchairs would be up-dated to meet the needs of the industry for technical requirements. Mr Alexander Fletcher, Under Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, indicated in a Commons written reply.

Official strike called

The massive police presence in the Midlands coalfields had provoked miners in Derbyshire into calling an official strike Mr Dennis Skinner (Bolsover, Lab) said in the Commons when he unsuccessfully sought an emergency debate on the issue.

Calling attention to the police presence in the Midlands in particular, Mr Skinner said: There has been a great deal of intimidation by the police in the operation of their duties and account should be taken that as a result of that massive presence by police the Derbyshire miners at a meeting this morning

COAL DISPUTE

have decided by a substantial majority to call an official strike in line with the rest of the coalfields that have already been on strike for more than a week.

Whereas the police were supposed to go into the Midlands to call off the Government to carry out their duties to try to stop strikes, the fact is that at the meeting this morning of the Derbyshire Miners' Council it was decided to call a strike because they were being provoked by the mass presence of police.

I have also just received information from a colleague that the police presence at Whitwell has resulted in a meeting there being called to a halt and police refusing to leave.

Thatcher decisions forced by tobacco lobby, book says

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

panies which control the industry.

The allegation concerning Sir George Young has been made by several political commentators.

Representatives of the tobacco industry in Britain were said to be aware of publication of the book "With Interest". The BBC television programme *Panorama* is preparing a related programme for screening next Monday.

Neither Mr Taylor nor The Bodley Head, the publishers, would discuss the book yesterday. Mr Stephen Eyles, a spokesman for the Freedom Organization for the Right to Enjoy Smoking Tobacco (FORE), said: "The anti-smoking lobby has always seemed paranoid about the influence of the tobacco industry on politicians."

"We constantly hear about the removal of Sir George Young from office but it is well known that his personal views about smoking and legislation did not reflect government policy at the time. The biggest surprise was not that he was removed, but that he was given the position in the first place."

Sir George: Opponent of smoking moved from health job.

World. Parated copies of the film have, however, been shown in the US and Australia.

Mr Taylor claims that the "smoke ring" is a "protective circle of political and economic interests that keep the power of the tobacco industry intact" and says in the book that "governments in different parts of the world have been reluctant to take effective action against the half-dozen multinational com-

panies which control the industry."

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panies which control the industry."



## Warring Lebanon parties seek miracle to save Lausanne conference

From Robert Fisk, Lausanne

It was the correspondent of the Beirut newspaper, *Al-Nahar*, who got it about right yesterday. As Lebanon's reconciliation conference dragged itself irresolutely into its eighth day, he sent home a suitably cosmic dispatch.

"God created the world in six days," he reported. "But for the creation of peace in the Lebanon, seven days have not been enough. Only a miracle will save the conference from failure."

Mr Abdul Halim Khaddam, the Syrian Vice-President, is in the miracle business just now and yesterday persuaded the Muslim delegates at Lausanne to produce joint proposals to be considered by the Lebanese Christian leaders.

But little more than an agreement on the principle of a new government of national unity was likely to emerge within the next 24 hours and Mr Walid Jumblatt, the Druze leader, has already said he intends to return home today.

Lebanese government spokesmen, with scarcely less pessimism than they evinced on Sunday, talked yesterday about the possibility of one final night-time session of the conference, a meeting that just might endorse a structure of increased Muslim governmental power

while retaining Maronite control of the presidency. But even this is likely to be no more than a set of high sounding principles rather than concrete agreement. It is almost as if the thick iron anti-tank shield protecting the conference chamber from potential assassins has somehow isolated the Lebanese politicians from the horrors of their own country.

The ferocity of Beirut is only a telephone call away from those attending the conference and delegates can be found in their suites each evening staring transfixed and powerless at the news from their capital city, of hooded militiamen fighting amid a ceasefire that has already itself become a phantom.

Yet Lebanese delegates can still be found enjoying the artistry of Miss Diana di Bango's dance act at Brummell's nightclub in Lausanne, while the would-be masters of Lebanon's destiny continue to enjoy the cuisine of the Hotel Beau Rivage's best restaurant.

The Syrians called Mr Jumblatt and Mr Nabih Berri, the leader of the Shia Muslim Amal movement to their rooms late on Sunday night and reportedly insisted they adopt a more compromising attitude towards the Christian leadership.

Mr Khaddam however, is now saying openly that citizenship rather than religious belief should join the Lebanese together, emphasizing that the Maronites are no longer a majority and cannot expect to be treated as such.

The Syrians have also said that other Christian communities in Lebanon, including the Catholics, have been underprivileged, and it is suggested Mr Khaddam may even favour a Catholic or Greek Orthodox presidency.

But it is difficult to see how the delegates, some of whom are already losing control over their militias in Beirut, can stay in Lausanne much longer. The conference has gone on for so long that even the photographic staff of an American fashion magazine turned up at the Beau Rivage yesterday to take advantage of the awesome security precautions.

As astonished Lebanese and Syrian representatives looked on, models were solemnly, and by pre-arrangement with the police, "arrested" by fur hatted members of the Swiss gendarmerie only a few yards from the conference chamber, thus proving that show business and high security has a lot in common, at least in Lausanne.



Royal star: The Prince of Wales enjoying a comic with schoolchildren after arriving yesterday in Dar es Salaam. Tanzania is the first stop on a two-week African tour, which will also include Zimbabwe, Zambia and Botswana.

## Polish police question reporter

By Our Correspondent Warsaw

The Warsaw correspondents of the BBC and The New York Times were summoned for questioning yesterday at the headquarters of the Ministry of Internal Affairs in connection with an investigation against a prominent Polish human rights lawyer.

Both correspondents refused to answer questions from Polish security police about how they had obtained copies of an open letter written by Mr Wladyslaw Sila-Nowicki to General Jaruzelski, the Polish leader, which accused the authorities of violating the law and covering up the investigation into the beating to death of a Warsaw schoolboy.

The BBC correspondent, Mr Kevin Ruane, aged 31, of Liverpool, declined to answer questions about the letter, saying: "As a journalist I cannot reveal my sources."

Mr Ruane, who spent nearly two hours at the Internal Affairs Ministry building, previously experienced problems when the Foreign Ministry revoked his accreditation for three months at the beginning of 1983.

The *New York Times* correspondent, Mr John Kiefer, aged 41, of New York, was questioned for under an hour, but similarly claimed the right to protect his sources.

● **Walesa plea:** Mr Lech Walesa, leader of the banned Solidarity union, has issued a statement calling for the release of Mrs Anna Walentynowicz, a fellow activist, and the opposition writer Mr Marek Nowakowski.

## Malta and Vatican seek deal on schools

Valletta.—Talks between the Vatican and Malta on the future of Maltese private church schools are to be resumed today (our correspondent writes).

The Maltese delegation in Rome is led by the Minister of Education, Dr Carmelo Mifsud Bobbici, who said: "We are entering these negotiations with good will but with a strong resolution in the church's secondary schools will be free from the start of the next scholastic year."

The talks, begun a year ago, broke down last June.

## Fatal revenge

Islamabad (AP) — A father held responsible for his son's murder 12 years ago and hacked all five members to death. Police said an 80-year-old man was among those butchered in the village of Sur.

## Curfew lifted

Ryucuo (AP) — The military command in Peru's guerrilla zone has lifted a two-year curfew on Ayacucho "to restore normal activity" for the city's 80,000 residents. The suspension covers the province of Huamanga.

## Poll postponed

Dhaka — Bowing to opposition demands, President Ershad has postponed Bangladesh's controversial sub-district elections. The vote, which was to begin next Saturday, is to be held after the parliamentary and presidential elections set for May 27.

## Texas battered

New York (AP) — Baseball-sized hailstones, 60mph winds, tornadoes, dust storms, torrential rains and driving snow stranded people and damaged buildings across Texas. Heavy snow blocked parts of Colorado, Nebraska and Kansas.

## Spectators hurt

Madrid — More than 40 spectators, including several children, were injured when a stand collapsed at a Majorca stadium during a football match. The accident occurred when Majorca scored.

## Danish choice

Brussels — Denmark proposed the name of Mr Henning Christensen, the country's Deputy Prime Minister, to be the next president of the European Commission.

## War legacy

Berlin (AP) — More than 13 tons of ammunition left over from the Second World War, have been uncovered in West Berlin since the beginning of the year. About 1,500 tons of old ammunition and bombs are found in West Germany and West Berlin every year.

## Awacs sent to protect Sudan from air attack

From Mohsin Ali Washington

The US has sent two Awacs surveillance aircraft to Egypt to help guard against any new air attacks on neighbouring Sudan, the Pentagon announced yesterday. The aircraft landed on Monday in Cairo where they will be based.

Egypt and the Sudan have accused Libya of carrying out an air raid on the Sudanese city of Omdurman last Friday. Libya has denied the charge, but Egypt claims that Libya is the only country in the area to own the type of plane used in the raid, a Soviet-made Tupolev 22.

A Pentagon spokesman said that President Reagan made the decision "in response to a request from the Egyptian and Sudanese governments to bolster their air defence capability."

"Their normal mission is to provide early warning air defence against air attacks," he said.

The Awacs would take part in combined air defence exercises being carried out by Egypt and Sudan, to demonstrate that the three countries could rapidly deploy forces to deal with aggression.

The Administration has also been considering a Sudanese request for an airlift of anti-aircraft weapons and other equipment.

● **Nimeiry accused:** Mr Joseph Oduho, political leader of the Sudan Peoples' Liberation Movement, yesterday accused the Sudanese Government of bombing its own people in Khartoum last week (Andrew Lycett reports).

He told a London press conference that the raid was carried out by a Sudanese Air Force MIG 15, which flew from El Obied in the west of the country. He said the aircraft bombed a partly used radio station, and the houses of two opposition leaders, including the imprisoned head of the Asar Sect, Mr Sadiq al Mahdi.

Two people were killed in this operation, and two more when the Sudanese Army moved in. Mr Oduho added that the bombing had been conducted to allow Egyptian troops to move into Sudan under the two countries' 1976 defence treaty and had been discussed between President Mubarak of Egypt and President Nimeiry on March 11.

Mr Oduho is a veteran southern politician.

## Iraq gains ground in bloody swamp battle

Majnoon, Iraq (AFP) — Iraq has retaken a significant part of this oil-rich region of swampy islands, canals and shallow water, after a three-week battle that officers acknowledge was extremely costly.

For the first time Iraq has allowed Western reporters to visit the front and see that Iranian forces have been evicted from a large part of Majnoon.

The correspondents saw both the evidence of a bloody battle, bloated, decaying bodies still floating in marshland, weapons piled high, and signs that Iraq had retaken some of the territory.

But they also found evidence that Iran had not given up the fight.

Peering out from the cover of swamp grass and reeds, the reporters saw a long, earthen dyke. "The Iranians are there," said an Iraqi officer, with a sweep of his hand.

His explanation was suddenly cut short by the characteristic whistle of a falling shell, an explosion and then machine-gun fire.

The commander of the southern front, said on Saturday "We have taken enough of the islands. We can finish the job when we want. The combat conditions favour the enemy."

The Iraqis appear to be preparing for an expected Iranian offensive rather than setting up their own.

None of the dead wore a gas mask, although there were many masks in a pile of thousands of confiscated weapons.

Iran, the United States and several European doctors who have treated Iranian wounded say there is evidence Iraq is using chemical weapons, banned by the 1926 Geneva Protocol. Iraq has rejected the charges.

tolerating antisemitism after the Government's emotional reaction to the invasion of Lebanon, resulted in substantial losses for Greek tourism, trade and shipping, and prompted fears of possible repercussions on Greece's ability to raise Western bank loans.

Last week, the Government took advantage of President Karamanlis's visit to Egypt to mend its fences with a country it had so far treated as a pariah and a traitor to the Arab cause. A senior Greek official was dispatched to Israel last week for the opening of a centre of Hellenic classical studies at Jerusalem university, built with funds donated by surviving Sephardic Jews.

This contact is being followed up shortly when Mr Nikos Katsipodis, the Greek Foreign Ministry's political affairs director, goes to Israel to return the visit of his Israeli opposite number, Mr David Kimche, last June, which set the scene for this new phase.

Athens became embarrassingly enmeshed in intra-Arab feuds. Hints that it was

**Circus tragedy**  
Athens (AFP) — Three hundred circus animals, including monkeys, crocodiles and snakes, perished when a stove set fire to their wagon while it was parked in an Athens suburb. A baby boy constructor was the sole survivor.

**Women at arms**  
Madrid — More than 68 per cent of females, aged between 15 and 30, polled in army survey, have said that they would like to do national service. Spain's armed forces are widely regarded as bastions of male values.

## Chicago holds key for US contenders

From Nicholas Ashford, Chicago

Mr Walter Mondale and Senator Gary Hart engaged in frenetic last-minute campaigning yesterday as a new poll showed the two rivals for the Democratic presidential nomination running neck-and-neck in today's crucial primary in Illinois, the first to be held in the industrialized Mid-West.

According to the *Washington Post ABC News* poll, Senator Hart leads Mr Mondale by 41 per cent to 37 per cent. The Rev Jesse Jackson is third with 16 per cent. Virtually all of his support came from black voters.

However, the poll was taken before Sunday night's televised debate, in which all three contestants hoped to sway the large numbers of uncommitted voters.

The debate produced no clear winners, nor did it break any new ground. Mr Mondale, who came under predictable attack for his ties to organized labour and to "old ideas and old arrangements," managed to appear the most experienced.

Mr Hart convincingly refuted the former Vice-President's charges that he was less

than wholehearted in his commitment to social justice and civil rights. He was not as polished as Mr Mondale, but managed to avoid making the sort of blunder which marred his campaign last week.

Mr Jackson, who made it clear that he intends to stay in the race to the end, was the most relaxed. He also drew the loudest laughs when questioned about being a dark-horse candidate. "I'm a dark horse, no matter how you put it," he said. "I have no apologies about this horse. It's a good horse and it's a fast horse."

Unlike the debates before other primaries, Sunday's joust was remarkable for its preoccupation with local Chicago politics, especially the bitter power struggle between Mr Harold Washington, the city's

black Mayor, and Mr Edward "Fast Eddie" Vrdolyak, the old-style political boss.

In Chicago, local politics is not only intertwined with national; it is invariably seen as more important. Many residents consider the election of the city's 50 committee men, which also takes place today, as of greater consequence than the choice of a presidential candidate.

Mr Mondale and Mr Hart managed to step gingerly around the peculiarities of the "windy city's" politics, trying to appeal to black voters without upsetting whites. Mr Hart has little support among blacks, and it is unlikely that he won many converts on Sunday night.

He must rely for his support on voters in down-state Illinois and the Chicago suburbs as well as the educated elite in the city itself. Mr Mondale, on the other hand, needs the support of black voters, who comprise 40 per cent of registered Democrats in Chicago, if he is to fight off Senator Hart's challenge.

Mondale campaign aides believe he will win half of the black vote. But others feel he

will perform less well because of his association with Mr Vrdolyak and Mr Jackson's strength in his home town.

The outcome of today's primary is of crucial importance to both front-runners, who are level-pecking in the national contest for the nomination. Victory for Mr Mondale, after Saturday's success in the Michigan caucuses, would not only compensate for the recent defeats he suffered at the hands of his upstart rival, but put him in a strong position to score further successes in two other big industrial states which hold their primaries shortly, New York and Pennsylvania.

Victory for Senator Hart, or even a strong second, would show that he is a national, rather than regional, candidate and would demonstrate that he could win votes in the industrial heartland, which is supposed to be Mr Mondale's constituency.

The outcome is also crucial for Mr Jackson. His strong showing in the South has been mainly among a rural electorate. Illinois provides the first real test of his appeal for urban blacks.

## Israel snub for UN in Lebanon

From Moshe Brilliant Tel Aviv

The Israeli Government has told Mr Brian Urquhart, the Assistant Secretary-General of the United Nations, that the UN peacekeeping force now deployed in southern Lebanon was not included in Israel's plans for security in the area.

Mr Urquhart was visiting Israel on a tour of Middle East capitals to ask government leaders how they saw the role for UN forces in the changing situation in Lebanon.

Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Prime Minister, and Mr Moshe Arens, the Defence Minister, told Mr Urquhart that the UN forces might be useful as referees in places such as the Sinai peninsula, where both parties wanted peace, but not in southern Lebanon.

Experience had shown UN non-combatant contingents were incapable of enforcing peace when one of the parties did not want it, they said.

## French farm fury over milk cuts

From Diana Geddes, Paris

A British lorry was hijacked by French farmers near Le Mans yesterday and forced to drive through a police barricade before taking part in one of the country wide series of demonstrations in protest against proposals to cut milk quotas and farm prices adopted by EEC farm ministers.

The lorry, belonging to Swains of Church Stretton, Shropshire, was seized by farmers as the drivers, Mr Harry Teasdale, was waiting to unload his cargo of 15 tons of frozen cow sides at a meat processing plant in Ferte Bernard.

About 400 demonstrators found the "escort" the lorry to Le Mans. On their way they forced their road blocked by a police barricade. Undeterred, they forced their way through, overturning a police van.

The police realigned with tear gas, but failed to stop the demonstrators. There were no arrests.

Mr Teasdale and his lorry were later released unharmed after taking part in a rowdy demonstration of more than 10,000 farmers. The older farmers apparently had to restrain some of the younger hotheads, who at one point seemed intent on setting the lorry on fire.

Riot police intervened with tear gas to break up the demonstration after farmers tore up part of the railings surrounding the prefecture and bombarded it with stones and other projectiles.

Mr Teasdale telephoned the British Embassy in Paris last night, insisting that he had been treated "like a gentleman" by the French farmers. The embassy kept in close touch with developments during the day.

In Lille, some 4,000 farmers marched through the town yesterday, breaking car windshields and setting light to bales of hay, before bombarding the town hall with eggs. The police did not intervene.

In Rouen, the town's citizens were woken up at 4.30 am by firecrackers and the clatter of milk cans being dragged around

the city centre by protesting farmers.

In the south-west, about 8,000 wine growers demonstrated in Beziers against the inclusion of Spain and Portugal in the European Community and in protest against the worsening crisis in the already overflying table wine industry.

In other demonstrations over the weekend, farmers blocked the airport at Beaufort-Fontaine, preventing the take-off of the helicopter which was to have flown 'M Jack Lang, Minister for Culture, back to Paris, while young farmers in the Nievre blocked the Paris to Clermont-Ferrand railway for several hours with burning bales of straw.

● **SAN SEBASTIAN:** Basque fishermen ambushed a lorry convoy at a mountain pass yesterday, burning three more French vehicles with petrol bombs in a continuing protest against France's firing on two Spanish trawlers on March 7 (AFP reports).

An official source here said 150 to 200 fishermen armed with knives and clubs hid in the woods at a pass in the Basque province of Guipuzcoa in wait for the 14-lorry convoy, escorted by Basque police.

The fishermen forced the drivers out of their vehicles before burning the three which bore French registration plates, then clashed with the police escort and with several dozen Spanish police and civil guards sent in as reinforcements.

Six lorries were burnt between Tolosa in the Spanish Basque country, and Pamplona, and a dozen French lorries blocked the Bitorion crossing on the Franco-Spanish border early yesterday.

No arrests were reported.

## Bomb backfires

Paris (AFP) — A car blast here, blamed by police on Jewish underworld rivalry, seriously injured a man, who was believed to have been trying to plant a bomb in the vehicle.



Lorin Maazel Not wanted in Vienna.

## Few tears at departure of 'glamorous' Maazel

From Richard Bassett, Vienna

Lorin Maazel, the controversial director of the Vienna State Opera, was criticised yesterday for spending too little time in the Austrian capital and too much time abroad on lucrative engagements.

The criticism, by Herr Helmut Zilk, the Austrian minister responsible for the arts, followed news that Dr Maazel's contract would not be renewed when it expired in 1985.

Herr Zilk said that Dr Maazel, who is at present in Canada, would probably be succeeded by Dr Claus Helmut Dresch, the present director of the Zurich Opera.

The choice reflects Herr Zilk's belief that the development of this most temperamental of opera houses is best placed in the hands of a proven

administrator rather than a conductor with a glamorous international reputation.

The announcement of Dr Maazel's impending departure has been greeted with considerable euphoria here. His attempts to reform the conservative repertoire system by reducing the number of operas performed have been relentlessly attacked by many Viennese critics. One leading conservative Viennese newspaper published three hostile articles last week.

Despite the widely publicized complaints, Herr Zilk angrily denied that Dr Maazel had been the victim of an antisemitic campaign. He knew of no evidence, he told journalists, to suggest that the conductor had not been welcomed warmly in Vienna.

## New Meese inquiry opens

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

The US Justice Department has opened preliminary investigations into the finances of Mr Edwin Meese, a close friend of President Reagan and Attorney General-designate.

The inquiries will centre on whether a special prosecutor should investigate a \$15,000 (£10,000) interest-free loan received by Mr Meese's wife from a friend, Mr Edwin Thomas, who was later ap-

pointed to a government job. Mr Thomas's wife also later given a job in the Reagan Administration.

Mr Meese failed to list the loan on his 1981 and 1982 financial disclosure statements as required by the Ethics in Government Act. Senate hearings into his appointment as Attorney General have been postponed.



Outward bound: Astronauts begin training for the new US shuttle Atlantis which will carry four Europeans into space next year. Dr Wubbo Ockels (Netherlands), Dr Ulf Merbold and Dr Ernst Messerschmid (West Germany), Dr Bonnie J Dunbar (US), Dr Reinhard Furrer (West Germany) and Lt-Col Guion Bluford (US) will train for 160 days at the German Aviation and Space Research Station outside Cologne.



## Indifference, fear and the rebels dominate election in Salvador countryside

From Alan Tomlinson, La Palma, El Salvador

A Government agronomist working in the Salvadoran town of La Palma gestured to where the *muchachos*, a group of a dozen or so fresh-faced young guerrillas, lolled on a street corner, rifles slung across their shoulders.

"If the soldiers don't come," he said, "the people simply will not vote."

La Palma, 55 miles north of San Salvador in northern Chalatenango province, is a community of perhaps 12,000 people. The guerrillas moved in when the army pulled out nearly three months ago, after the nearby garrison of El Paraíso fell to the rebels.

Now, less than a week to go before the presidential election, the talking point here is not who will win but whether the electoral process will reach the town at all.

La Palma is by no means unique. Towns in much the same situation are to be found throughout the third of the country estimated to be under guerrilla control.

I found a group of guerrillas on the road into town handing out anti-election propaganda to the occupants of buses and farm lorries. Later they took over the local schoolroom to expound

their programmes to more than a hundred teenage students. In the evening a group of workmen listened to much the same speech.

"If we don't want the Army to come in here and make elections possible, then they won't come in," said the leader of the guerrilla group, who told me he had taken up the armed struggle to overthrow the Government seven years ago at the age of 16. "How many men will the Army need to carry out elections in all the places they don't control?"

"But we are not trying to prevent elections, we just want to people to know that, with or without them, things will not change. If the Mayor comes out and puts up a table and says 'vote here', well, in that case, they should vote."

Most people I spoke to seemed more concerned at the prospect of the 50 colonies fine (about £9, quite a large sum in this part of the world) for those who fail to have their identity cards stamped at the polling station to prove they voted.

"People talk a lot about this," said a storekeeper. "But it is hardly going to be our fault, if there is nowhere to vote, so how can they fine us?"

"Politicians," sneered a middle-aged workman. "Most people here detest them all, but they will vote if they can, out of fear and to avoid the fine."

"I would like to vote because it's a start, a step towards peace," said a woman shopkeeper, "but I don't suppose we are going to have elections here."

"We think the *muchachos* will let the Mayor put a polling station in the school so that we can avoid the fine. Or maybe officials will come up from the capital, although I expect they will be too afraid," said one of a group of students. "But afterwards, once everybody has got his card stamped, I think the *muchachos* will burn the ballot box."

Most of the people I spoke to seemed unwilling, either through indifference or fear of the journey across the war-torn countryside, to make their way to another town.

A minority who were keen to vote were mainly women. The majority, mainly the men, did not seem to care very much one way or the other. These elections, they said, were not going to change anything in El Salvador, and certainly not for them.

## Edging out tradition in Hassan's desert kingdom



Morocco's economic problems have accelerated the exodus from traditional villages like Seti-Fatma (left) in Oudika Valley in the Atlas Mountains to the teeming towns like Marrakesh (right). Godfrey Morrison writes from Rabat. Now 42 per cent of the population lives in the urban areas compared with 35 per cent ten years ago.

Life for Morocco's country dwellers, if picturesque, has been far from easy, particularly in the past five years when agriculture has taken a beating from consistently poor rainfall.

Last weekend, with the normal rainy season approaching its end, and once again below average rainfall in prospect, King Hassan called on his subjects, almost all of them Muslims, to pray for rain.



Mainly the young depart, leaving their elders and young children to till the land. In the past they have left not only for Morocco's cities, but for France to seek work.

But now that demographic safety valve has been shut, with French governments introducing increasingly stringent immigration regulations, some young Moroccans are seeking their fortunes as workers in

the Gulf. Now the largest single component of foreign exchange earnings is the money sent home by Moroccans working abroad.

The impoverishment of the countryside has produced a politically volatile mass of rootless, urban unemployed. Morocco, once a major food exporter, now has to rely on massive grain imports.

(Photographs: Warren Harrison)

## Prisoners of conscience



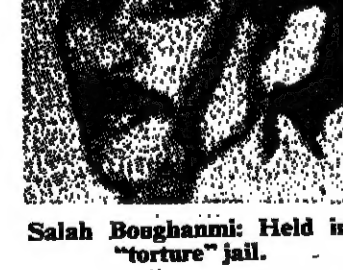
## Tunisia Salah Boughanmi

By Caroline Moorehead

Salah ben Mohamed Boughanmi was one of 46 people arrested by police in the summer of 1981 and brought to trial in September on charges of belonging to an unauthorized organization - the *Mouvement de la Tendance Islamique* - of defaming a head of state, and of distributing false information. A teacher from the province of Kef, Mr Boughanmi was among those few who received the maximum sentence of 11 years imprisonment. On appeal, the sentence has been reduced to 10.

Neither Mr Boughanmi, nor any of the other defendants, was charged with any violent act, and observers at the trial believe that legal procedure fell short of internationally agreed standards of impartiality.

Aged 30, married with three young children, he is now being held in Bourj El-Roumi prison, near Bizerta, where conditions are said to be very poor.



Salah Boughanmi: Held in "torture" jail.

## Red-baiting major plays to gallery

San Salvador (AFP) - Major Roberto D'Aubuisson, cheered on by thousands of screaming fans, staged an election campaign allegory here in the form of a rigged football match.

Twelve thousand supporters turned up at a stadium to cheer the former Army major, who has been widely linked to Salvadoran death squad activities, and who is standing as the extreme right-wing candidate in the elections next Sunday.

Anti-communism was taken for granted by the crowd, who had been brought to the capital by lorry and bus from all over the country. But the rally treated the Christian Democratic contender, Señor José Napoleón Duarte, as equally villainous.

On the field, one team was called Arena, the acronym of the Nationalist Republican Alliance, with a player labelled D'Aubuisson as goalkeeper. Another player, who was con-

stantly fouled by the opposing "communist" team, represented the long-suffering public.

The referee was labelled Magaña (representing President Alvaro Magaña). He outrageously favoured the communist side, abetted by an official named after the US Ambassador to El Salvador.

Señor Duarte featured as center-forward for the communist team, which came on the field wearing green (the Christian Democrats' colour) track suits, and then stripped down to their real colours, red uniforms and helmets. They carried watermelons - green outside, red inside.

President Reagan was parodied on the sidelines as being unable to decide which side to back, until he cheered the predictable winners: Arena by 8-2 (two goals having been awarded to the communists by the referee).

## Brussels prepares for 'masculist' onslaught

From Ian Murray, Brussels

What is claimed to be the first ever European petition for men's rights is to be handed in to the European Parliament by a new "masculist" group, which has been set up in Brussels to protect the male of the species.

The emerging European Men's Movement has organized its first conference in Brussels next month under the title "Daddy". Two ERM MPs have already been booked to speak on the subject of parental equality in the interest of the child.

The European masculist movement is being organized in Brussels by Mr Hugo de Garis, an Australian computer operator, a divorced father of two, who means to make men's rights as important as women's rights have already become. He claims that there are already some 20,000 militant masculists in Europe.

His petition points out among other things that male life expectancy is 5-8 years less

than that for women; that men and not women are called on to do military service; and that men have less right to access of their children after a divorce.

Mr de Garis also claims that huge numbers of men are being battered by their wives, but because they are treated with derision and disbelief, statistics do not emerge.

Mr de Garis believes that there should be committees set up to protect men in the way that so many have already been set up to protect women's rights. He is pressing the European Parliament to form its own men's rights committee. The masculist movement already has several hundred groups in the United States and a number have been recently formed in Europe, including the Families Need Fathers group in Britain. So far, Mr de Garis says, the British are not flocking to join because they are going through the "male feminist guilt phase".

## Church mission on apartheid

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

A delegation of South African States and Western Europe to draw attention to the "untold misery and suffering" which they say has been inflicted on about 3.5 million people forcibly resettled over the past quarter of a century in pursuit of apartheid.

Their indictment of the Government is contained in a document entitled *Relocations: The Churches' report on forced removals*, which was drawn up by the South African Council of Churches and the Southern African Catholic Bishops' Conference. The report will be presented to churchmen and politicians abroad.

The delegation, headed by the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Pretoria, Mr George Daniel, will visit Britain, America, Sweden, The Netherlands, West Germany and Switzerland as well as the United Nations and the Vatican. Its members also include representatives of the Anglican, Methodist and Lutheran churches and the Coloured (mixed-race) branch of the Dutch Reformed Church.

The only church which is not

a member of the council is the white Dutch Reformed Church, to which nearly all Afrikaners, who account for about 60 per cent of the white population, belong. Despite growing internal dissent, it still holds that apartheid is justified on scriptural and theological grounds.

The churches' report claims that the number of people removed so far is larger than "the forced migration of various Soviet peoples imposed by Stalin" and compares with the seven million deported by the Nazis during the Second World War. It also estimates that about 1.8 million more people are threatened with removal.

The churches draw heavily on exhaustive field-work and research conducted by the Surplus People Project which was established four years ago by concerned academics and social workers. Their five-volume report, *Forced removals in South Africa*, was published last year and is accepted as the authoritative work.

The biggest category of removals since 1960, involving more than a million people, concerns blacks evicted from

white-owned farms and land in the countryside. These include full-time farm-workers and their families or blacks living as tenants on white land and paing either cash or supplying their labour as rental.

The Government's critics argue that while small peasant producers have been forced off the land by economic forces in many other parts of the world, South Africa is unique in prohibiting those evicted from moving to the towns and in forcing them into the overpopulated and impoverished tribal reserves or homelands.

About 53 per cent of all blacks live in these areas (compared with 40 per cent 20 years ago), and the rest, although living and working outside, are deemed to be homeland citizens. As these areas are given "independence", so the blacks assigned to them cease legally to be South Africans.

The churches say this system serves the racialist political and economic goals of the white regime by allowing into "white" South Africa only those blacks whose labour is required.

## Americans 'plotting rebel rule in Afghanistan'

From Richard Owen, Moscow

Moscow yesterday accused the United States of plotting to set up a rebel "puppet government" in Afghanistan in opposition to the Soviet-backed regime of President Babrak Karmal. Moscow said a 3,000-strong American-backed rebel force had tried to set up a provisional government in a "liberated zone" with its centre at Urgan, near the border with Pakistan. The attempt had failed however, and 600 rebels had been killed.

The charge came in a report from Urgan by correspondents from *Pravda* and the armed forces paper, *Red Star*. The report gave no date for the incident beyond saying it had taken place late last year. It made no mention of Soviet involvement - there are an estimated 105,000 Soviet troops in Afghanistan - and suggested the operation had been carried out by regular Afghan army troops.

The Afghan Army has been plagued by low morale and desertions, especially after the extension of military service from three years to four earlier this month.

Yesterday's revelation of the Urgan fighting seemed designed to counter this. *Pravda* said that Afghan troops had shown high military skill and courage in defeating the rebel forces, which *Pravda* said had infiltrated across the Pakistani border into Pakia province. *Pravda* claimed the United States "and its allies" had promised the *Basmachi* (bandits) immediate recognition and assistance if they succeeded in establishing a rival Afghan government at Urgan.

The Soviet press, including *Red Star*, had reported fighting at Urgan but not the attempt to set up a provisional government. *Pravda* said yesterday that a large number of rebels had been taken prisoner in the action, and weapons of British, American and Chinese manufacture had been captured. It said the 3,000 rebels had reached the outskirts of Urgan and were shelling residential quarters with mortars and rocket-propelled grenades before being stopped by Afghan troops.

## Canberra's admission of Asians denounced

From Tony Duboulin, Melbourne

The continued entry into Australia of Asians could "weaken or explode" the tolerance extended to immigrants over the past 30 years, according to Professor Geoffrey Blainey, professor of history at Melbourne University and author of the book, *Tyranny of Distance*.

Asians have become "the favoured majority" under Australia's immigration programme and it might be better to give 1,000 dollars (about £625) to each refugee to go to a place further away, he said. Addressing 1,000 Rotary members at Warrnambool, about 200 miles west of Melbourne, Professor Blainey said: "Rarely in the history of the modern world has a nation given such preference to a tiny ethnic minority of its population as the Australian Government has done."

Expanding on his weekend speech, Professor Blainey said yesterday that "malice, hatred, racial tension and movement out of certain suburbs" could occur if Asian immigration continued at its present rate.

Because Australia was geographically close to South-East Asia, it did not mean it should have an immigration policy weighted towards that region. In the last resort, public opinion, not politicians, would determine whether the policy succeeded, he said.

A spokesman for Mr Stewart West, the Minister for Immigration, said there was disappointment that the professor had not looked at the assumption on which Australia's immigration policy was based. If he had, he would have seen "that the increasing asianization was inevitable".

University of Melbourne, said recently: "The intellectual sparks which glitter in the stimulating atmospheres of Harvard and MIT, Tokyo or Kyoto, Oxford or Cambridge, are extinguished here in the ashes of prevailing mediocrity. Researchers, able to achieve the extraordinary when working at a top-class university abroad, achieve only the ordinary on their return to German universities."

Herr Genscher was inundated with letters supporting his criticisms, which he intended to make a main theme at the next conference of his Free Democratic Party. Several newspapers also took up the theme. But the Social Democrats, former education ministers and even government officials and research-funding authorities, have poured scorn on his proposals.

Critics say the elite universities would be socially divisive, catering mainly for the middle classes and would reintroduce harmful distinctions between academic institutions. Herr Heinz Riesenhuber, the Minister of Technology, said his colleague's ideas were unrealistic, as they were too expensive. West Germany could not now afford the extra DM500m (£130m) for elite institutions.

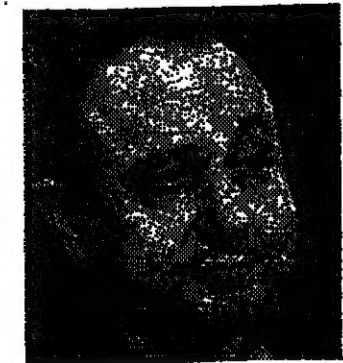
## West Germany and high technology: The remedy Elite universities to the rescue

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

Unless West Germany broke the state monopoly on higher education and set up private elite universities to concentrate the nation's research on technologies of the future, it would never catch up with Japan and the United States, Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the Foreign Minister, said three months ago in a controversial speech that has unleashed a fierce argument over higher education.

The country's large, state-run universities, he said, had been severely damaged by the attempt in the last decade to make them all equal. They had instead all become mediocre, with disastrous results for research, for academic excellence and for the training of the top scientists needed to restore Germany's sagging reputation at the pinnacle of Western achievement.

He therefore called for the establishment, as a start, of two privately-financed, un-



Herr Genscher: Equality drive has been disastrous.

students, these universities would be free to attract the best teachers, to select the most brilliant students and to introduce innovations that would drive vital competition to the state system.

The universities, financed by industry and offering scholarships to anyone unable to afford the fees, would attract venture capital companies to their areas and forge the close links with high-technology industry that have made such places as Harvard, Stanford and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology so successful in the United States.

For West Germany, these

radical proposals break the established consensus on equal opportunity and call into question the higher education reforms of the 1970s.

But many people say such a shake-up is overdue. There are now 1,200,000 students, more than four times the number in 1960 and by 1991 the total is expected to reach 1,500,000. Everyone who passes the *Abitur*, the school-leaving examination, has a right to a place, although overcrowding has meant the clearing-house system now largely determines who goes where.

Universities are controlled by the federal states and funded by central government. Past policy has been to even out the distinctions between institutions and lecturers' salaries are strictly controlled within federal norms.

The result, Herr Genscher and many academics say, is the worst of both worlds: there are no real prestige institutions left and the vast numbers at each institution leave little possibility for small classes or real scholarship. University staff are bogged down in administration and generous research funds are spread so evenly that there are no concentrations of excellence in the various fields.

Professor Wolfgang Wild, president of the Technical

University of Munich, said recently: "The intellectual sparks which glitter in the stimulating atmospheres of Harvard and MIT, Tokyo or Kyoto, Oxford or Cambridge, are extinguished here in the ashes of prevailing mediocrity. Researchers, able to achieve the extraordinary when working at a top-class university abroad, achieve only the ordinary on their return to German universities."

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## Famine aid appeal by Nkomo

From Stephen Taylor, Harare

Mr Joshua Nkomo, the Zimbabwe Opposition leader, said yesterday he was pleased that the Government was allowing food into the curfew-bound province of Matabeleland South. He added, however, that there was still a danger of mass starvation, and appealed for the Red Cross to be allowed to launch a relief operation.

Speaking at a press conference at his Harare home, Mr Nkomo said he had confirmation that since last week some food had been reaching the estimated 420,000 people confined in the curfew area since February 3.

"A substantial number" - he could not give figures - had already died of starvation or been killed by the Army during attempts to purge anti-government guerrillas, he said. The curfew area is in its third year of drought, and all food distri-

bution centres were closed six weeks ago.

Mr Nkomo said that even now only some rural stores were being allowed to open for short periods, and stocks were quickly exhausted by desperate peasants.

"The Government must take the situation seriously, or by the end of the curfew we will be faced with whole villages having been wiped out", he added.

Since the curfew was imposed on the 2,500 square mile southern province there have been persistent reports of Army brutality against the civilian population. They are mainly supporters of Mr Joshua Nkomo's Zapu Party, but are alleged by the Government to be assisting guerrillas. There are widespread reports of killings which are unverifiable because of the Army cordon around the area.

At yesterday's press conference Mr Nkomo also said that he had to call off a rally in the midlands town of Kadoma at the weekend, after it was disrupted by youth members of the ruling Zanu (PF) Party.

He said that the youths, singing Zanu slogans, had attacked his supporters with sticks and axes, stoned cars belonging to the party and cut wires to the public address system.

On the advice of party officials he had stayed away from the Ramuka stadium, and after two hours of violence it was decided to abandon the rally. About 10 Zapu supporters were taken to hospital and a group of central committee members were only able to leave the stadium when police dispersed the youths with tear gas.

## Trade tops US agenda in Peking

Peking (AFP) - Mr Donald Regan, the United States Treasury Secretary, yesterday began talks with Chinese officials aimed at leading to increased bilateral economic cooperation and preparing for President Reagan's visit here next month.

Mr Regan was in Peking for a three-day meeting of the US-Sino Joint Economic Com-

mittee set up in 1979 by former President Carter and Mr Deng Xiaoping. The committee has met annually since 1980.

Mr Regan was also due to meet Mr Zhao Ziyang, the Prime Minister, and Mr Wang Bingqian, the Finance Minister. The Treasury Secretary said his visit would focus on plans for an agreement on avoiding double taxation, which would

reassure American businessmen considering trading in China.

The two sides are also to discuss an investment protection agreement, which, like the fiscal measures, could be signed during President Reagan's visit.

Mr Regan said the issue of high-technology sales could be raised if the Chinese wanted to discuss it.

The Soviet press, including *Red Star*, had reported fighting at Urgan but not the attempt to set up a provisional government. *Pravda* said yesterday that a large number of rebels had been taken prisoner in the action, and weapons of British, American and Chinese manufacture had been captured. It said the 3,000 rebels had reached the outskirts of Urgan and were shelling residential quarters with mortars and rocket-propelled grenades before being stopped by Afghan troops.

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## FASHION by Suzy Menkes

## Avant-garde v The Establishment

Yesterday's announcement of a £20m investment scheme for the clothing industry and Mrs Thatcher's party at No 10 put the Establishment seal of approval on London Fashion Week. But, ironically, this season will be remembered for the triumph of the avant-garde.

The stand-out shows of the week were from the designers - often showing in groups - who managed to put the creative energy of young London on to the runways. They absorbed the androgynous street style and often showed collections on both sexes. They lit up the sober browns with flashes of fluorescent colour. They cut in a way that brought the body into focus.

Above all, they gave out a strong sexual charge that has not been captured in clothes since the mini-skirted 1960s. It is this ebullience and energy that has drawn an increasing number of foreign press and buyers to London.

Body Map was the hottest ticket in town. Designers David Hogg and Stevie Stewart gave a strong, exciting all-season range. Their clothes express themselves in movement, with knits and sweat fabrics that mould to the body. They take a conventional track suit or sweat dress and change its focus by altering the proportions.

Betty Jackson tapped a strong resource of London design by using exclusive prints. Broken abstracts made interesting dresses. Brian Bolger's prints and Timney and Fowler's on Hurler jersey were the stars.

Wendy Dagworthy also uses action sports-wear as the basis of her line, with dresses like track tops grown down to the knees or big shirts in citrus colours. Her men wore soft pyjama suits in hot clashes of colour like orange and pink.

Katharine Hammett is a designer with a cause. Her crumpled cotton clothes helped to revolutionize the way we dress. Now she wants to save the world, the whales and children from nuclear attack. That is the message she took to Downing Street on her slogan T-shirt.

The fast-moving group shows shot out sparks of talent: Sarah Windsor at Sunday's Amalgamated Talent doing witty things with tartan; Peter Robinson also loved with tartan at the Individual Clothes Show.

The enthusiasm and innovative energy of newly fledged designers has to be tempered with commerce and common sense once a small business is built. All too often I felt that the established designers had played too safe, although what else can they do when they have clients or customers to serve and no empire of perfumes and accessories on the European model to support a creative collection?

Sheridan Barnett has found new backing from Reldan and he delivered a fine collection, true to his own image of woman as a Valkyrie. She strides down the catwalk, violet jersey cloak swirling, mole brown Harris tweed redingote swinging. Her tailoring was at its best in the rust-red melton reafter jacket. Lumiere and Sheelagh Brown also tried their hands at tailoring trim and dandy, with colourful knits.

Roland Klein took the cardigan as his theme and worked it with style. It grew from hip length to three quarter, always with a slim skirt and very effective at night in raspberry silk faconné over a slim dress or as an evening knit appliqued by a leaf patterned cable.

Caroline Charles has an authentic London ethnic style, which means using very pretty fabrics in a gentle way. Her soft angora suits came in delicious combinations of grape, raspberry and sherbert pink.

If you love Jean Muir, you will like Jasper Conran, for his homage to London's most famous dressmaker brought a series of dainty, draped dresses, often with gored skirts and in quiet colours like moss green. In homage to Chanel there was a lot of navy blue tailoring, including a covetable cashmere jacket. Window pane cheeks looked fresh. Braided edging to forams and suits ladylike.

Arabella Cohen showed a wide range of new fashions. Her palette was the new fashion, a selection of colours like Disney red and

The Esplanade are attempting to dress the cast of Dynasty with their chunky dresses so that they look like they should banish forever the royal wedding.

Arguably, the most interesting is the new collection by as well. His never ideas on a public shopping at The Hippodrome were translated into a tweed, moiré and fluorescent

beaded with a wide shoulder line above a long, slim body shape. There were dramatic Fortuny-style skin dresses and draped matt jersey in next season's colours for after dark: black, lipstick red and electric blue.

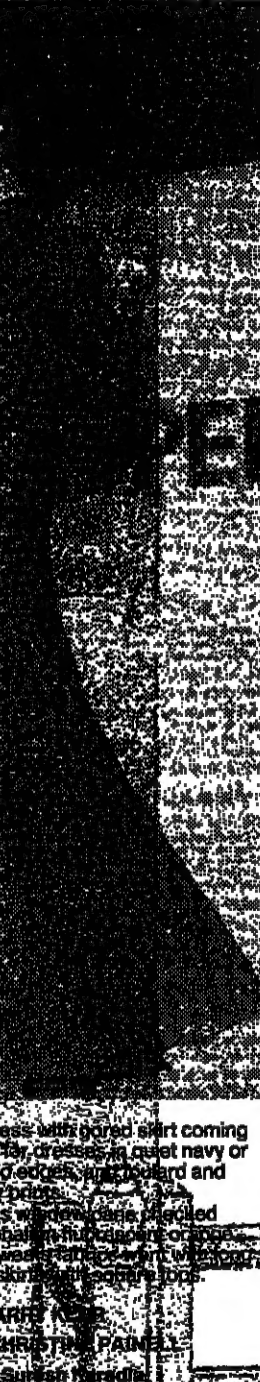
Zandra Rhodes brought out some good new prints in a non-vintage collection - especially bold brush strokes of Deft blue on white chiffon and a graphic Manhattan skyline. New were fine wool dresses, but Zandra's magical touch is at night.

Janice Wainwright also shines at night, using matt fabrics with surface textures of cotton, silk, jersey, with asymmetric waves of patterned velvet. Her cocoon coats in earth brown with wrapped crepe and flannel dresses were a strong daytime line.

The cocktail dress is king at Murray Arbell, whose fine workmanship puts the avant-garde designers to shame. He had a finely pleated peplum on a lacquer red satin suit and some clever, trumpet-like, floor drapings in silver bugle beads.

Jean Muir can teach the entire fashion world how to make a dress. Now she is also tailoring with slim coats in mannish tweed and an interesting felt coat with a giraffe print. She also has a new blue skirt, asymmetrically lapping the hips, and a covetable wrap dress like a man's smoking jacket. For the rest, we saw 57 varieties of the little black dress, never in ink black suede.

Miss Muir, CBE, is a most consistent professional designer. Her clothes were on the runway line in Downing Street.



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Left and above: the phib hopd 'is fashion's latest fad. It came up sexy in leopard printed wool jersey from Anthony Price (left), sweet in sweats on a child's pique suit (above) from Body Map.

Above: Zandra Rhodes' Adelin's cave of jewels embroidered on to chiffon and worn over a slinky jersey dress. New colours were earth brown, Sierra red and Deft blue. Above left: Jean Muir's new tailoring in tweed on a slim coat and skirt. She also had a new wrap skirt, intarsia patterned cashmere knits and foulard silk fabrics.

## Angela Gore



## Mediterranean Blue

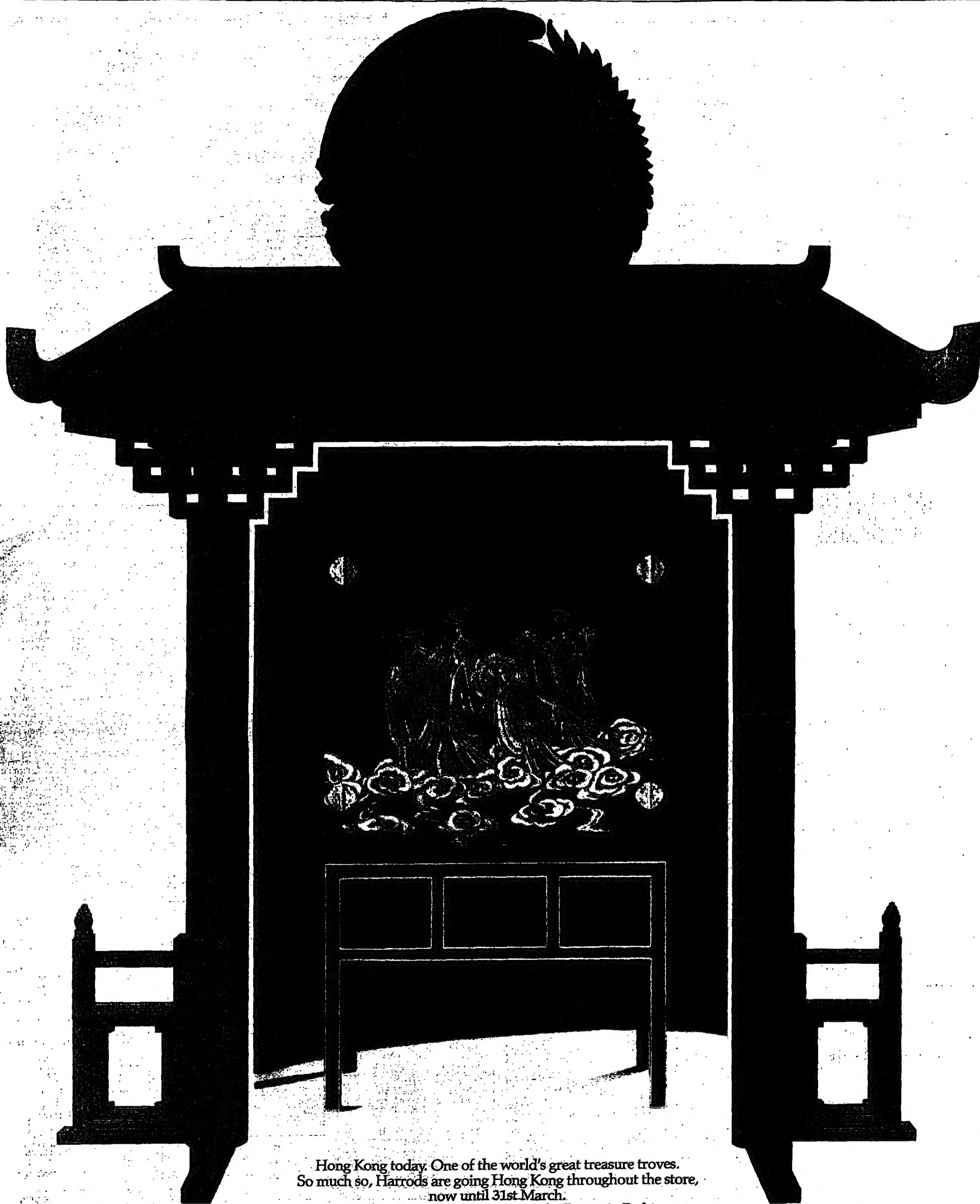
Italian wool challis softly striped with many blues for an easy fitting shirt-dress, no waist seams, self belt. Length 45" with two inch hem. From stock or up to 28 days. Made in our Kentish workshops and refinished if unsuitable. (2) 36 bust, 38 hip, 14 (38a, 40b, 1), 16 (40b, 42b, 1) and 18 (42b, 44b).

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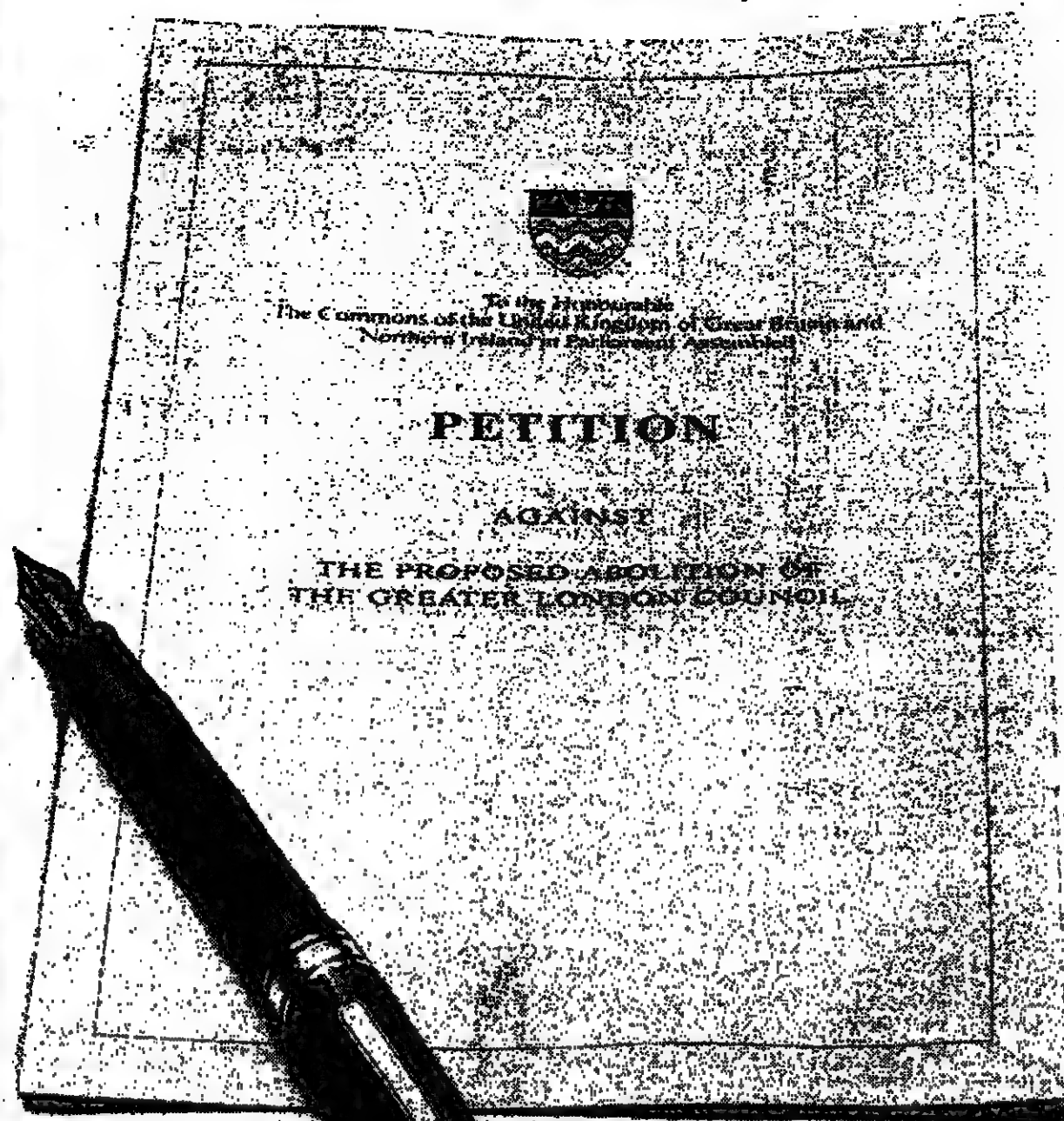


Angela G









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**YOU'LL BE**  
**ASKED IF YOU**  
**WANT A**  
**SAY IN WHO**  
**RUNS LONDON.**



# THE TIMES DIARY

## Anger and Rage

As the Government's April 2 deadline to evict the Greenham Common Campers approaches, I can reveal that the so-called peace women have an ally: the Angry Brigade, the anarchist group responsible for a series of bombings between 1968 and 1971. Yesterday, Dr Tom Gibson, a retired GP and a leader of Rage, Ratepayers Against Greenham Encampment, told me his home in Ecton, Newbury, had been threatened by the brigade following a series of advertisements in the *Newbury Weekly News*, in which he asked locals to register their support. One reader has described them "as the sort of advent Nazis would have used against the Jews and the Ku Klux Klan against their black countryfolk."

In the letter, now in the hands of the police, the Angry Brigade accuse Dr Gibson of supporting the "selfish, decadent powermongers." "We don't like it. If you carry on putting Rage advertisements in against Greenham women in the *Newbury Weekly News*, you had better watch your back. SCUM. Watch your property. Property is theft." It is signed: "Angry Brigade Resistance Movement. Anarchy. Peace. Freedom."

## Top of the Pops

Pope John Paul II is set to become a pop star. Ten poems, written when he was Bishop Karol Wojtyla, have just been set to music, and two of them, "Armaments Factory Worker" and "The Synod", are set to make the Italian charts. Neither, I am told, are likely to set the Rimini disco floors throbbing. The worker in the armaments factory laments that, "though what I rate is all wrong, the world's evil is none of my doing," while "The Synod" reflects on a Second Vatican Council that left its participants "poor and naked". Methinks more Leonard Cohen than Rafaela Carrà.

## Party program

Kinnock was not batting for Britain when he installed a new spelling checker for his party's computer at the Walworth Road HQ. Being an American machine, it rejected the word "Labour" and had him billed as leader of the Labor party. Programmers are awaiting with relish to punch in the real target: Tory.

BARRY FANTONI



"My dad's sort of in the air force, too - he's a flying picket"

## Flat Heals

The Thirties Society are not amused by the designs of Sir Terence Conran. He is about to rip out the elegant curved windows of Heals's - which he has just added to his Habitat empire - and replace them with flat ones. Sir Terence, who started his career as a window dresser at Simpsons behind one of the only other examples of the Thirties windows, is doing it for the money. To sell furniture, the goods have to be seen. Ironically, really, since Sir Terence sponsors the Boiler House project in the Victoria and Albert Museum, which was established to foster the study of design.

## Otherwise

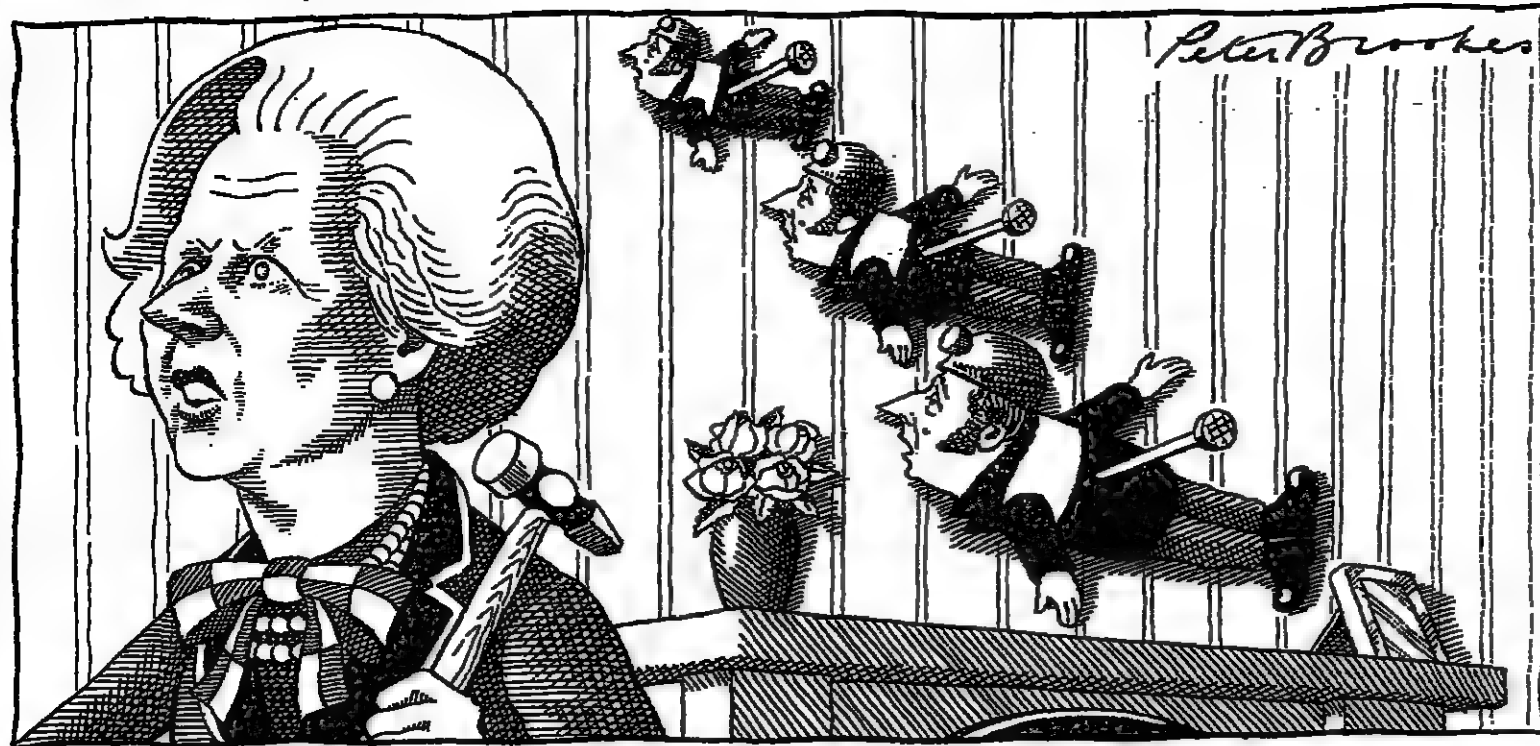
Christopher Bosanquet, a publicity agent drafted in to clean up Dartington Hall's sex, drugs and rock 'n' roll image, kicks off the campaign with "surprising" teasers from staff and pupils in a leaflet entitled "Here We Stand", to be published today. Roger Tisbury, the new joint headmaster, who was sworn by the agency to secrecy over the leaflet's contents, would describe the new regime only as "liberal, but other things as well". I can't imagine.

## Tightly corked

In a desperate effort to ensure against injunctions from angered parties, preview copies of Michael Leapman's book *Trachery*, about TV-am, will be sent only to a select band of reviewers who pledge total secrecy. Even with that precaution, George Allen & Unwin are refusing to forward copies until a day or two in advance of publication day, April 5. Yesterday Leapman was persuaded to disclose at least one tit-bit from his cloak-and-dagger operation. Not surprisingly, it concerns the antics of the deposed chairman, Peter Jay, in whose office cupboard brimming with champagne bottles was discovered by the new regime, who thought their suspicions of extravagant living were confirmed. In *Trachery*, however, such allegations are dismissed. The apparently abominable Jay insisted that the bottles remained there intact for a celebratory occasion. But like Jay, even vintages go off.

PHS

From Saltley to the Nottinghamshire coalfield: control of the flying pickets could be a new benchmark in curbing industrial disputes, argues Peter Hennessy



## Have the miners been nailed?

As news filtered back to Whitehall yesterday morning from the coalfields of Nottingham, Lancashire and the Midlands indicating that 44 pits, about a quarter of the national total, were working normally, it looked to officials that a 12-year-old demon exorcism.

Since the 1972 coal strike, every civil contingency planner in Whitehall has had the words "Saltley Coke Depot" engraved on their heart. In the second week of February that year, Saltley contained the country's last substantial stockpile of coal. It was closed after a struggle involving at peak moments 800 police and 15,000 massed secondary pickets. The event changed the landscape of industrial relations in Britain for a decade. It became the symbol of naked trade union power used ruthlessly and successfully.

Saltley caused a fundamental rethink in Whitehall. It led to the dismantling of the old Home Office Emergency Committee and the foundation of the Civil Contingencies Unit (CCU) in the Cabinet Office. The CCU remains Whitehall's "doomwatch" organization. It keeps constantly updated files on 16 essential industries and services, assesses their vulnerability to trades disputes and the degree of relief that can be won by policing or by putting in troops as alternative labour.

The CCU is not in the lead on the current coal dispute. With between four and six months' supplies of coal stockpiled at the power stations, plus an equivalent supply of the essential chemicals needed for electricity generation, the issue is not one that could require a state of emergency under the Emergency Powers Act, 1920 in the medium-

term at least. It is being treated in Whitehall as primarily a law and order issue, hence the attention devoted to the National Recording Centre at New Scotland Yard from which the rapid reinforcement, using 7,000 officers, of local police forces in the coalfields is being coordinated.

But the Cabinet Office planners, Mr David Goodall and Brigadier Tony Budd, are important members of the team briefing Mrs Thatcher's ad hoc committee on the coal dispute. And it will be the CCU which will have to revise the intelligence appraisals in its coal file when the dispute is over. Current Cabinet office evaluations are sanguine.

They recognize the importance of legislation enacted by the Thatcher administration banning secondary picketing and a substantial change in the climate of industrial relations since the winter crisis of 1979 that brought down the government of Mr James Callaghan. There are, however, no illusions about the possibility of direct action in defiance of the law, the Government and public opinion causing severe problems in the future. If, for example, the Yorkshire miners, assisted by large numbers of sympathetic trade unionists, decided to besiege the big coal-burning power stations in the Trent Valley and the Doncaster area - the backbone of the national electricity grid - there is very little the chief constables of Nottinghamshire and South Yorkshire could do on the day to make sure supplies were not affected. If the workforce could not enter the premises.

So there was relief and quiet satisfaction but no premature

euphoria in Whitehall yesterday. The police action in Nottinghamshire and the Midlands was judged a significant event. But it looked like being a long and expensive haul, and nerves could fray. Parallel to the Birmingham Coke Depot were in the forefront of official minds. The first difference between Saltley in 1972 and Nottinghamshire in 1984 was the quality and robustness of the policing. The late Reginald Maudling, Home Secretary 17 years ago, bore the scars of Saltley but refused to reconsider his view that, in the end, the Heath government was powerless.

He recalled: "During the miners' strike [when] pickets threatened to close the Birmingham Coal Depot, and, in fact, succeeded in doing so, the then chief constable of Birmingham assured me that only over his dead body would they succeed. I felt constrained to ring him the next day after it happened to inquire after his health. I am sure the decision he took was a wise one, because the number of pickets involved was so great, and feelings were running so high, that any attempt by the relatively small body of police who could be assembled to keep the depot open by force could have led to very grave consequences. Some of my colleagues asked me afterwards why I had not sent in troops to support the police, and I remember asking them one simple question: 'If they had been sent in, should they have gone in with their rifles loaded or unloaded?'"

The ability of police forces since the riots of 1981 to assist each other very swiftly with well-equipped and trained officers has proved crucial to

the shift in the balance of power in outbreaks of violent, or potentially violent industrial disorder of which yesterday's events provide the most convincing evidence to date. It is most unlikely that Mr Leon Brittan's memoirs will contain any passage comparable to Mr Maudling's.

But ministers can be notoriously wobbly on such matters, oscillating between premature euphoria and unjustified despair. There is still a need for confidence-building measures to be seen to be effective. The sharp end of the picket lines the Government must consolidate its advantage. It could all unravel very rapidly if the flying pickets regain the initiative and official resolve crumbles.

There is no sign of that at the moment. The chief constables are determined to rid themselves of the stigma of Saltley. Mr Peter Joslin, Chief Constable of Warwickshire, said on Sunday: "We are no pushover. Enough is enough. The impression left at the Scotland Yard press conference was that the police have the men and the nationally coordinated tactics too."

Mr Scargill has always seen such confrontations as a war, "a class war" in which you "attack the vulnerable points", the power stations and coal depots. As chairman of the Barnsley Area Strike Committee of the NUM in 1972, he invented the new weapon of the massed flying secondary picket. It could be that the authorities have, at last, developed an effective defence in depth. If they have, March 19, 1984, will rank with February 10, 1972, the day Saltley was closed, as a benchmark in the history of industrial relations.

Bernard Levin: the way we live now

## The bottomless pit at the end of the rainbow

(Particularly, I may say, since the lady seems to have an exceptionally nice one; she has just said that she feels no resentment for the father of her child, that although he is not himself married "it would not be right to name him", and that she will not be asking him for money.) But what interests me, and provides my real theme, is not the lady's original action, nor her present misfortunes, but the bit in between.

### Why shouldn't the lady expect a crock of gold

The immediate consequence of her action was her launching, on a sea of *reclame*, into a many-sided new life (she had been, until the fateful day, an assistant in a bookshop). She made a pop record; she opened a boutique; offers of modelling engagements fell thick and fast on her downcast face.

Note carefully the constituent elements of her new triple career, its nature almost incredibly representative of the froth and bubble that this age mistakes for substance. The characteristic sound of our time and place is the howling and gibbering of pop singers; its characteristic product is the shoddy of the Kings Road and Carnaby Street, its characteristic activity is posing, with expressionless faces, for the cameras of advertising photographers. The innocent young lady at Twickenham had noticed, as had the rest of us, these phenomena, and had noticed, again like others, that many of those engaged in such trades had become successful and rich - some of them, indeed, rich almost beyond imagining. Why should she not believe the agents and promoters, the spivs and *rumormongers*, who told her that she was no less gifted than the successful ones (which was probably true), and could therefore become no less rich?

You can conjure it as an irregular verb: I am a pop-singer, you own a boutique, she models, we are successful and rich. Why indeed should not the Lady of Twickenham believe that there is a crock of gold at the end of the rainbow, when in our society a bishop scurries across the country to sit at the feet of Mr Mick Jagger and nod sagely at the pearls of wisdom that fall from his ample lips?

"Everyone seems to think," she says in recounting her disillusion-

ment, "that because I'm famous I must be rich." That ought to be carved on the twentieth century's tombstone, not because the lady has so painfully spotted the fallacy, but because she has so ardently, yet so truly, defined what today is fame. It is to make records so undemanding of emotion, thought or music that they will get into the "charts"; it is to sell "designer jeans" and "cosume jewelry" (if there is any more room on the tombstone those phrases ought to be added); it is to narrow the eyes and point one hip and find the resultant picture amid the glossy trash of the latest gaudy property magazine; for that matter, it is to find the proprietor of the latest giveaway property magazine appointed Rector of the Royal College of Art.

As it chanced, the lady in this case failed to become rich. The boutique did not find favour, the record did not sell millions of copies, the modelling offers did not continue; she now, presumably, knows what song the sirens sang. But it might so easily have been otherwise. In our era, some have become millionaires by putting rubbishy records on gramophones; others have made even greater fortunes by gyrating to the records in "discotheques"; attractive young women have ensured themselves a place in the history books, or at any rate Madame Tussaud's, by looking half-dart for hours on end in a photographic studio. Who will dare say that the young lady of Twickenham was barred from such glories by lack of talent?

### We live in a world composed not only of froth

And where was the lesson taught that was thus dearly learnt? Who told the *disc jockeys* and the *boutique-owners* and the *gossip columnists* and the *disco-dancers* and the models that at the end of the rainbow there was gold to be got for the stooping? Why, those who, in the older arts, contented on much earlier to the fact that imagination, hard work and the stuff of creation were no longer necessary for success.

Do you curl your lip at those who seek fame and fortune through the dubious portals of publicity? Then be prepared to encompass a good deal more in your curl.

For we live in a world that is not exclusively composed of froth; there is the sour lees beneath it to be considered. You can pile bricks for £4,000 a pile if you are in favour at the Tate Gallery; if you tear up the pages of an Act of Parliament and stick them on a wall you may find yourself commended by Mr Richard Cork; if you cover 34 square feet of canvas with a rabbit and win so great a prize, and hang it in the Royal Academy, and if you cover 500 square feet with even greater rubbish Mr Christo Joachimides will hang it in the very next room. Meanwhile, if you are a composer, or want to be thought one, you may write "works in which the voice has no fixed relation to the score", "works whose performance is indeterminate" and "works based on imperfections in the manuscript paper", and Herr H. H. Stuckenschmidt will write an admiring book about you. Alternatively, you can write poetry by cutting words out of newspapers and pasting them together at random; the editors of literary magazines will be eager to publish the results and will squeal like stuck pigs if the Arts Council will not pay them to do so.

It seems hard on the young lady at the rugby match, who did nothing more wicked than believe what she had been told about the value of publicity, that she should now be in want while others, no more talented than she, can still have waxed rich as accidentally as she has now waxed poor. Their fame, of course, will last, by history's reckoning, only an instant longer than hers, and she did, after all, cheer us all up, which is more than most of them can say; would the Sunday papers bother to print pictures of Stockhausen's chest, or Carl Andre's, or Snoo Wilson's?

Good luck, say I, to the lady with the worse that did provide pictures, who seems to be a brave lass as well as a good-hearted one; "I may be down", she says, "but I'm not out." I wonder, however, whether she feels that she might have done better to stay at her job in the bookshop and keep all her clothes on. She says herself that she did not earn more than £8,000 from first to last after her moment of fame, and is now £7,000 in debt. But if she were still behind the counter selling the works of Tolstoy, Sophocles and Levin, I calculate that she would have made some £5,400. And what is more, had she remained in the bookshop she might, when trade was slack, have taken down the appropriate volume of Shakespeare and read these words by way of warning:

All that glitters is not gold:  
Often have I heard that told;  
Many a man his life hath sold  
But my outside to behold:  
Gilded tombs do worms infold.  
Had you been as wise as bold,  
Young in limbs, in judgment old,  
Your answer had not been  
inscrolled:  
Fare you well; your suit is cold.

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Robin Cook

## When the banker should say Non

Today as the premiers of Europe descend from their summit at Brussels, we may at least learn just what propositions have been made to Britain behind closed doors as part of the French shuttle diplomacy of the past couple of months.

For those of us waiting in the ante-room observing the arrivals and departures of European dignitaries, it hitherto has been difficult to fit together the odd fragments that have escaped from the British voices of negotiation. Certainly British ministers have not assisted national speculation by alternately blowing hot and cold. This week the press is heavy with reports bearing the unmistakable fingerprints of lobby briefings, faithfully rebutting the message that ministers are gloomy about the prospect of agreement. Yet last week in the Commons Sir Geoffrey Howe appeared if not ebullient - at which would hardly suit his style - at any rate surprisingly self-satisfied at progress made.

It is easy to understand the reason why ministers swither between optimism and pessimism. Mrs Thatcher has carved her reputation in the adamant stone of resolution, determination and conviction, and all the signs suggest that she is now strongly tempted to take advantage of confrontation in the Common Market to perform a display ritual of those qualities, nicely timed to boost ratings for the coming Euro elections. On the other hand both she and Sir Geoffrey Howe have been in constant negotiation in pursuit of a European deal for almost a year since the Stuttgart summit.

This in turn places an obligation on them to show they have achieved something for all this diplomatic effort, while inability to reach agreement would confirm they have failed to shift our continental partners from their resolute approach. If the stakes were not so high it would be quite entertaining to observe our senior ministers seeking to reconcile the paradox that they have succeeded in defending British interests through failing over three successive summits to obtain a deal that secures British interests.

Moreover, if ever there was an opportunity for a settlement favourable to Britain it is now. Without a settlement, the Common Market will be bankrupt by the autumn. The looming financial debacle was underlined by President Thörn when he confirmed that by the end of March the Community will have spent 40 per cent of its current budget, only 25 per cent of the way through the year.

As Mrs Thatcher is wont to remind us, Britain bankrolls the

Community and this is surely the moment when any competent banker could secure the upper hand in negotiations. Instead, we actually appear further away than at Athens from securing British objectives.

One objective was reform of the CAP. Yet as the months have passed, the Government's proposals instead of gaining in clarity have become even more vacuous. Reform itself has disappeared from the vocabulary of negotiation and been replaced by the longer but more limited phrase "effective control of expenditure".

Yet the recent agriculture settlement plainly does not meet even this more modest objective. Its most striking feature is that at a time when it is agreed on all sides that the Community is about to run out of money, the agricultural ministers have come up with a package that will add £500m to the budget proposed by the Commission. It is alarming to speculate what increase in expenditure they might have been prepared to contemplate had more resources been put in the kitty. Moreover the mechanism for damping the milk lake has the perverse result that Britain, which still has a surplus of demand over supply for milk, is obliged to cut production proportionately by twice as much as France, which is the Community's largest dairy producer but faces the smallest cut.

It does become easier to understand why Mrs Thatcher may listen to voices suggesting that it may be better at Brussels to utter the defiant "Non", than to return to defend such unhappy agreements against the probing of parliamentary debate and public disapproval. Moreover, there is one scenario in which it is possible to have the best of both worlds. Europe goes to the polls from June 14 to 17. Its premiers have already arranged their next summit for June 18. It is difficult to resist the obvious inference from such delicacy of timing that any particular detail which may prove too painful for domestic public opinion will be postponed until the day after the voting.

In the meantime we know of at least one issue that has been resolved in the current round of negotiations. Greenland has contrived its exit from the Community with a deal that secures £211 a year for 10 years for every inhabitant of Greenland. It is an attractive deal that provokes passions for thought. Perhaps we would have been better to turn the British negotiation brief over to the wily diplomatic corps of Greenland.

The author is Labour MP for Livingston.

Roger Scruton

## A toast to old wine - and old manners

Many explanations could be offered for the decline in serious sherry drinking; perhaps the most obvious is the decline of serious sherry. Less obvious perhaps, but no less important, has been the long-term effect of King Edward VII's sale, in 1901, of 60,000 bottles of vintage sherry, judged "surplus to royal requirements" - a gesture which caused the following comment from Queen:

The business capacity of His Majesty has shown itself by ordering that sale while the memory of his august mother is most vivid among us; for there is no doubt that, allowing for a certain quantity of the liquor going to the dealers, the greater part of it will find its way to the cellars of the *veux et nouveaux riches*, who will offer it to their guests as a kind of historic beverage... the truth is that sherry has had its day even among connoisseurs of wine, and among better class women... albeit that few of the latter could have given an adequate, still less a gastronomical, reason for preferring it to the French dry wines... such as *Sauvignon Blanc*, *Montrachet* or *Côtes du Rhône blanc*.

One assumes that the last named wine was not the bland potion currently sold under that label, but white Hermitage, which may indeed sometimes bear comparison with the greatest dry white wine of all.

But when we ask one now to find a bottle of serious sherry? Or, for that matter, a bottle of the best white Hermitage? The answer is discreetly contained in the records of the royal auction. A certain Mr Berry, having quietly bid throughout the proceedings, carried home in triumph, at a price too appalling to disclose, the last nine dozen bottles. Part of the royal surplus thus found a temporary home in the cellars of wine merchant who has remained to this day one of the few reliable purveyors of the drink which the royal liver could no longer tolerate.

I hesitate to sing the praises of Berry Bros and Rudd Ltd. Those who know the discreet shop in St James's Street, London SW1, will be appalled at the sacrifice involved in publicizing its existence. Those who do not know it are probably suffering from some moral deficiency - perhaps even from a lack of interest in wine - which must surely lead to a double charge of sacrilege against the writer who would share such precious information with infidels. However, the example set by Berry's is so important that I hope to be excused, if not for my methods, at least for their meaning. For Berry's is one of the few remaining businesses conducted entirely according to a moral idea, in which personal association and respect for the merchandise take precedence over anything that might be called a "market force".

The family concern, at present conducted by a Mr Berry of the seventh generation and by the current Mr Rudd, presides over one of the most remarkable of London's

archives, recording the weights of distinguished customers who have sat upon the black coffee scales in the front of the shop. This record of the tangible presence of famous men - of their momentary translation into an equivalent in groceries - has a strangely soothing influence. Peer and commoner, geniuses and lunatics, judge and criminal: all are reduced to a single measure, equalized at last, in their final transition from quality to quantity. Such is the genial influence of trade.

Like any institution dedicated to the equality of its members, Berry's presents obstacles to the uninitiated. Nothing stands in the window; no advertisement beckons to the passer-by or flatters his vanity. Nor, indeed, does the shop contain anything that could conceivably be bought or sold - no wine, no cigars, no merchandise of any description; only the old black scales, a few Windsor chairs, some antique desks, and a collection of dignified empires set upon mahogany shelves along the wall. It has the feel of a London club: the same deeply masculine sense that a comfortable arrangement, once discovered, should never be changed, and certainly not for the convenience of strangers.

In the courtesy of the staff can be discerned an equal refusal to yield to terms that have not been approved by the existing members. On one occasion, when the assistant had just fetched my order from the cellar, a bluff character barged through the door, and loudly declared his interest in acquiring large quantities of wine for investment. Without shifting his attention from the single bottle of "Good Ordinary Claret" that I had purchased on account, the assistant explained stiffly that the firm did not sell for investment purposes and besides had not the habit of dealing in the quantities required.

Once admitted, however, the customer is treated with exemplary concern, by a firm that manages to conduct its business as though totally indifferent to profit and loss. Its respect for the customer is matched by an equal respect for the quality of what is sold. Berry's continues to bottle many of its wines, and runs among major importers, retains its own office in Bordeaux. Its modest labels have remained unpolished by classifications, and resistant to the false expertise of the speculator. The resulting list contains more true bargains than any cut-price chain store, and is chosen with a love for the matter of trade that equals the firm's love for its form.

From time immemorial Berry's has stocked a most extraordinary white Hermitage, and it is with this vintage that I now drink a toast to the old habits of commerce, habits which, properly guarded, may still resist the market forces which elsewhere have eroded them.

هكذا من الأصا





P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

## TIME FOR A BALLOT

As a matter of industrial diplomacy, the Coal Board's decision yesterday to postpone its case against the Yorkshire region of the miners' union has obvious advantages. If the police prove able effectively to inhibit illegal picketing at the gates of mines whose men want to go to work, why should the board risk the odium of seeking the same end through the courts? If the union's leaders do eventually allow its members the national ballot which is now so manifestly necessary, to heal the internal rifts that their leadership has opened up, the board would serve its own interests best by staying on the sidelines. The possible spectacle of an enforced seizure of union funds to meet claims awarded under the Government's Employment Acts might be the very thing needed to create that embattled spirit in the union which Mr Scargill's strategy has so far failed to evoke.

But it is generally better to deal with large scale organized threats to public order through the courts rather than by mass movements of police. The chief constables in the areas concerned have been entirely right to move energetically to ensure that people who want to go to work are not prevented from doing so by coercion - and to cooperate with their colleagues to ensure

that they have the resources to do so. The precedents of Warrington, Grunwick and the 1972 miners' strike, and also the rhetoric of the leaders in the present dispute, amply justified taking precautions on the largest scale. Prompt action seems at this stage to have forestalled further major clashes, and perhaps further casualties. But there is less risk of injury, and less public expense, if these matters are determined in the courts and not on the streets: the law should, and now does, provide means of achieving this.

The law of contempt exists to serve the public interest as well as that of aggrieved parties. The public interest requires that defiance of the law should not be seen to succeed. In exercising an aggrieved party's right to withdraw, the Coal Board can justify itself with the argument - perhaps premature - that the police have already ensured that the defiance will fail. But at the same time, a precedent has been set for union leaders to claim - as Mr Scargill has already claimed - that the law of contempt is an empty threat and that employers will generally be too cautious, or too intimidated, to exercise their new rights. The defiance and disorder that have already occurred will go unpunished, however.

The present dispute is at least as much about politics as about coal. The argument within the union for a national strike is wholly perverse and self-defeating except as an expression of the crude doctrine: "Don't mess with us!", and an attempt to weld the miners again into the political force they were in 1974. Even if that attempt succeeded for a time, it could only be at the expense of the union's long-term cohesion and the well-being of the industry. The many marginal pits in Britain can have no secure future while the industry is burdened by the small number of heavy loss-makers which should have closed years ago. The true interests of miners in the latter are best served by calling for industrial investment in the areas where they are often the main source of employment - not by calling on the majority to sacrifice their interests so as to postpone briefly the inevitable closure for those pits which cannot be saved.

The internal conflicts that have been made acute by the attempt to lure the union unwares into a national stoppage can now only be resolved by a national ballot. There is no other way for the union to recover its self-respect, and for the industry to put a lengthy, futile and irrelevant episode behind it.

## THE POLITICS OF CRIME

Justified satisfaction has been expressed in both Dublin and Belfast at the capture of Dominic McGlinchey in county Clare and his prompt extradition to Northern Ireland under an order confirmed by the supreme court in Dublin in December 1982.

Refusal by Irish courts to extradite on a warrant charging a serious crime associated with republican violence, and the refusal of Irish governments to amend the statute on which the courts have based themselves, have caused more resentment among Ulster Unionists against the state to the south of them than any other single cause of complaint. Compared to that, the Republic's laws about contraception, divorce, abortion, and other questions they have been agonizing over with half an eye on the North, are matters of indifference to Unionists.

Extradition is something within Dublin's gift that really would soften Northern attitudes; since non-extradition for these blatant crimes confirms the impression that the Republic is a sanctuary from which terrorist attacks are launched upon Northern Ireland, and colours the belief that, for all the evidence to the contrary, including the provisions for extra-territorial jurisdiction, somewhere deep in the official consciousness of the Republic these crimes are condoned.

The position of Irish governments all along has been that extradition is a matter for the courts, that the law the courts interpret and enforce cannot be rescinded without an amendment to the constitution, that any such proposal to amend the

constitution would be hazardous, and that alternative remedies are available in the form of reciprocal extra-territorial jurisdiction or better still an all-Ireland court. About that it can be said that extra-territorial jurisdiction is seen to be of far less efficacy than extradition, that an all-Ireland court is a gift borne by Greeks, and that the constitutional bar is a figment erected upon a dubious construction of article 29 of the Irish constitution (specially dubious in the Irish and primary version of the document) and an obsolete understanding of the requirements of international law.

However that may be, no Irish government has yet felt sure enough of its political ground to act directly on this source of bad blood between the two parts of Ireland. The Irish supreme court, to its great credit, has been prepared to move by way of judicial development. Apart from any internal promptings, the court had the example of other jurisdictions, notably the United States where, on a plea of asylum on the ground that the offence is political, the courts have been looking harder at the nature of the offence as well as the motive behind it. There is also the example of the European Convention on the Suppression of Terrorism, which radically modifies international law.

In his judgment in the McGlinchey case in 1982 the Chief Justice paved the way for judicial development capable almost of revolution. It would no longer be enough, he held, that there should exist the conditions of insurrection or organized violent conflict and that the

person accused claimed to have been acting in furtherance of a political objective. Earlier judicial authority had been rendered obsolete in many respects by the fact that modern terrorist violence "is often the antithesis of what could reasonably be regarded as political". The question to be asked in each case was whether the particular circumstances showed that the person charged was at the relevant time engaged in "what reasonable, civilized people would regard as political activity".

Everything now depends on how far the supreme court follows its own lead. More than one case awaits appeal, including the alleged murder in county Armagh of Sir Norman Strong, an old man of 84 who had once been speaker of the Northern Ireland parliament. The high court applied the McGlinchey judgment to place that crime outside the category of political offences. A stiffer test will come when a warrant charging murder or attempted murder of an off-duty UDR man or an on-duty policeman comes before the court in Dublin.

The return of Mr McGlinchey is a bonus for intra-Irish relations and a cherry-on-a-stick to precede the dish about to be served up by the Dublin Forum. But the courts' case-by-case reclassification of offences is an indirect and uncertain way of doing what ought to be done, when all the time it is open to Dr Fitzgerald's government to subscribe to the European convention on terrorism in full and alter the municipal law of Ireland accordingly.

him, being seen by many southerners as a betrayal of the Addis Ababa agreement.

Grasping at the one identifiable constituency left to him - the Muslim Brotherhood - he announced last autumn the full implementation of Islamic law, which turned out to mean the construction of a macabre amphitheatre for the public amputation of thieves' hands. This further alienated the south - even though there seems to be no question of applying it to non-Muslims - and also appalled many decent Muslims, for whom it was a travesty of Islam especially when applied by a government with no credentials either of popular choice or of social justice. Mr Sadiq al-Mahdi, who icily pointed this out, was promptly clapped in gaol, further emphasizing the President's isolation; and now guerrilla warfare in the south has put an end to the Chevron oil company's explorations, and with them virtually all hope of economic development.

Mr Nimeiri is a great survivor. But his survival in itself is no longer bringing any tangible benefits to his country, which on the contrary is falling apart. The only hope of a solution now must lie in a broad-based administration giving the various political, religious and social forces in the country a genuine say in its future. Mr Nimeiri could still form such an administration, if he were willing to hand over real power to it. Otherwise Colonel Gaddafi will continue to find Sudanese disaffection to exploit.

## Divided views on wages councils

From Mr Chris Pond and Ms Emma MacLennan

Sir, Your article of March 6 ("Wages councils split both employers and unions") purports to describe the mixed feelings aroused by the wages councils among both employers and trade unions.

Trade union opinion, it is true, has not always been wholeheartedly in favour of the wages councils, and for a period in the late 1960s and the early 1970s unions pressed for the abolition of wages councils in some industries. Over that period a number of wages councils were indeed abolished and the experience of trade unions in those industries is partly responsible for their change of heart more recently.

In industries as diverse as paper box-making, stamped and pressed metals and industrial catering the abolition of wages councils failed to achieve any improvements in the level of union organisation. The wage levels of the lowest paid suffered further reductions and the well organised were no better off.

For these reasons response to a TUC discussion document last year found unanimous support among trade unions for the retention and improvement of the wages council system.

As might be expected, opinion among employers is not uniform. The "modest wages" people might be prepared to accept in the absence of minimum wage protection, edged on by crushing levels of unemployment, are never made explicit. But as the current statutory minimum entitlement of an adult shop assistant is £67 gross for a 40-hour week (or less than half of average adult wages), the wages some employers would like to be paying must be extremely modest.

The ability to pay even lower wages, however, would not add to employment or industrial efficiency. The experience of abolishing wages councils in the past has shown this to be a vain hope as evidenced by research commissioned by the Department of Employment and carried out by the Department of Applied Economics at Cambridge.

For these and other reasons the majority of employers' organisations, as shown by their retention of the *Industrial Relations Review and Reports* 290, February 22, 1983, p.9. Moreover, the existence of minimum wages in labour-intensive, highly competitive industries prevents the situation where, in the words of Winston Churchill, "the good employer is undercut by the bad and the bad employer is undercut by the worst".

Thus, if the Government goes ahead with its threats of abolition, the interests of no one but the least efficient "cowboy" employer will be served.

Yours faithfully,  
CHRIS POND, Director,  
EMMA MACLENNAN,  
Deputy Director,  
Low Pay Unit,  
9 Poland Street, W1,  
March 8.

## Danger in Hebron

From Mr J. A. Dooley

Sir, As a present resident of Hebron, on the West Bank, and a person who, in the past, has surveyed a number of ancient monuments for the British Department of the Environment, I should like to draw to the attention of the Secretary of State for the Environment, Mr. Peter G. Hain, the fact that the ancient fabric of Hebron's Tomb and other monuments in the district of Hebron are being put in danger by the number of super-sonic bangs which are constantly rocking the town and its environs.

These amount on some days to some half dozen or more, the last series of such bangs, to my knowledge, having occurred on February 21 and 22. One of the bangs on the last day mentioned was so violent that the conservatory I was sitting in literally rattled and I was surprised that panes of glass did not drop out about me.

As research on the effect of these super-sonic bangs on ancient fabrics has been well publicised, it is difficult to see why the Israeli Ministry responsible for these matters is being neglectful. I would suggest that Jewish everywhere, if they are interested in preserving their architectural heritage, register their concern to the Israeli Government.

Yours sincerely,  
J. A. DOOLEY,  
Post Restant,  
Main Post Office,  
Jerusalem,  
Israel,  
February 28.

## Rodent remedies

From Mr James Essinger

Sir, The President of the British Pest Control Association (March 12) recommends the use of even nastier poisons to combat super-rats, but he appears to have overlooked ultrasonic pest-repellent devices.

These emit sound at a frequency audible to pests, rats and mice, but inaudible to humans, dogs and cats. They thus represent a clean solution to a potentially highly unpleasant problem.

Final testing by the British Standards Institution is awaited, although there have been extensive tests in New Zealand, Australia and the USA and pest control.

Why they have not been utilized before is a curious matter, since it has been known for ages that televisions, which under certain circumstances emit ultrasonic sound, often get rid of rats, both super and economy-sized.

Yours faithfully,  
JAMES ESSINGER,  
32 Lealand Road,  
South Tottenham, N15,  
March 13.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Steps towards unified defence staff

From Admiral of the Fleet Lord Lewin

Sir, I was glad to see your leading article (March 16) supporting Mr Michael Heseltine's proposals to strengthen the Central Staff of the Ministry of Defence. These are indeed a further stage in the evolution of the unified ministry first achieved by Lord Mountbatten in 1964.

I think however, that you underestimate the significance of the step taken in 1981 when Mr John Nott endorsed and the Prime Minister approved my proposals for a change in the responsibilities of the Chief of the Defence Staff.

Until that time the CDS was responsible, as Chairman of the Chiefs of Staff Committee, for presenting the collective views of himself and his colleagues. Only if there was disagreement could he represent his own views and, with pressure always to seek a consensus, all too often this resulted in delay and compromise.

As the military passed, the strength of the military was diminished compared with other sections of the ministry giving advice to ministers. The Central Defence Staff, composed of officers drawn from all three Services, was accountable to the CDS only in his position as Chairman of the Chiefs of Staff Committee, and inevitably tended to be constrained to the melting and moulding of the views of the strong Army, Navy and Air staffs rather than evolving objective defence policies and giving independent advice to the CDS.

The changes that I proposed and which were approved and implemented made the CDS the principal military adviser to the Government in his own right, not as chairman of the committee.

The Chiefs of Staff Committee became the forum in which the CDS sought the advice of his colleagues but no longer had a collective responsibility. The Central Defence Staff thus became accountable

directly to the CDS and at last he had an independent staff of his own.

The appointment of a deputy CDS in 1982 was not a new post, but a broadening of the responsibilities of the existing CDS for operational requirements to encompass the whole field of plans, policy and programmes, and part of a general tidying up of the organisation of the central staff.

I agree with your leader writer that the CDS does need a proper "Chief of Staff" to coordinate the whole span of central defence responsibility and with the authority to act for the CDS when he is unavoidably absent.

It seems that among the changes that Mr Heseltine now proposes is a further strengthening of the central staff answerable to the CDS at the expense of the Naval, General and Air staffs. This is logical, but the single Service Chiefs of Staff must, of course, be left with adequate staffs of their own to fulfil their responsibilities as the professional heads of their Services and to enable them to contribute considered advice to the CDS on matters of strategy and defence policy.

I particularly welcome the proposal for a greater integration of Servicemen and civilians on the general staff. This was a cardinal feature of Lord Mountbatten's proposals but was not followed through, except in the case of the Defence Intelligence Services, which are a model of tri-Service and civilian integration serving defence needs.

Within months of the implementation of the changes in 1981 we were faced with the crisis in the South Atlantic, giving the new arrangements a searching test in the fields of crisis management and direction of operations. I think it is acknowledged that the system proved its effectiveness.

Yours sincerely,  
LEWIN,  
House of Lords,  
March 16.

### VAT distortions in building

From Lord Rosebery

Sir, Although there is some superficial logic in charging VAT on building improvements, because it avoids having to differentiate between repairs and improvements, there are two fundamental objections to it, in addition to the effect the alteration will have on the building industry.

The first is that it will encourage demolition and rebuilding as opposed to improving existing buildings, thus making it even more difficult for owners of listed buildings and encouraging the demolition of other good buildings.

The second is that it increases the fiscal distortion between let business premises and owner-occupied business premises. The owner-occupier, whether he is a farmer, industrialist or other business occupier, is in a position to recover the VAT he incurs on maintenance, while the landlord of such property cannot recover it.

It is ridiculous of the Chancellor to give as one reason for cutting the investment income surcharge that it will put agricultural landlords on a level even footing and at the same time extend this VAT anomaly to building improvements.

Why should an extra building in a complex be treated differently to the extension of an existing building? Can a new building be linked to an existing one? Can a link be made later? The anomalies are endless.

Yours faithfully,  
ROSEBERY,  
Dalmahy House,  
South Queensferry,  
West Lothian,  
March 16.

From Mr George Ferguson

Sir, By making building alterations liable for VAT the Chancellor has inflicted a cruel blow to the plans and hopes of a new lease of life for redundant churches and other buildings which have lost their original use, but remain as vital elements of our townscape, landscape and heritage.

The standard rating of building repairs has already militated against our existing building stock, and historic buildings in particular, but to add to this the standard rating of a change of use of a church to a concert hall or community centre, or from a derelict terrace of Georgian houses to flats for fair rent, or even the improvement of a young couple's new home is a grave error. It will have the inevitable effect of encouraging illicit conversions within the black economy.

It appears, sadly, that the Chancellor has paid more attention to the convenience of the Customs and Excise, who have been squealing at recent changes in the definition of the term "alteration", than to those of us with the difficult task of trying

to maintain and improve the surroundings in which we live and work.

We can only hope that back-benchers will appreciate the iniquity of this particular measure and will enable the reversal of this decision, or at the very least give exemption for listed buildings and charities from VAT on building alteration and repair.

Yours faithfully,  
GEORGE FERGUSON,  
Ferguson Mann Architects,  
Royal Colonnade,  
18 Grosvenor Street,  
Bristol,  
Avon,  
March 15.

From Mrs Hilda Day

Sir, I have just read with amazement the letter of Jill Goulding in today's *Times* (March 16). She states that many children have only one hot meal each day, namely takeaway food. It has always been the responsibility of the parents to see their children are properly fed.

When I went to school in the hungry thirties, and I come from a large family, I don't ever remember coming home from school without a hot meal waiting. In the case of parents who go out to work, it is a simple matter to prepare a meal the previous evening.

Takeaway food is not cheap. Fish and chips in this area cost about £1.20 per portion. For the price of two such meals could produce a cooked meal for four people.

In case anyone thinks I was born with the proverbial silver spoon, I am a very old-aged pensioner, living alone.

Yours faithfully,  
HILDA DAY,  
26 Cecil Crescent,  
Hatfield,  
Hertfordshire,  
March 16.

From Mr Donald Cunningham

Sir, It seems to be taken for granted by many people that the Budget proposals are a fait accompli. I am particularly alarmed at the life assurance companies' placid acceptance of the proposed abolition of life assurance relief. They should be vehemently opposing the Chancellor's proposals.

To many millions of medium and low-income earners endowment and whole-life assurance policies are the only practical means of long-term savings. To abolish a fiscal concession of well over 100 years' standing is a retrograde step which I never thought to see proposed by a Conservative Chancellor.

Yours truly,  
D. CUNNINGHAM,  
11 Monckton Road,  
Borough Green,  
Kent,  
March 16.

### Smallholdings ladder

From Mr Antony Palmer

Sir, It saddens me that Councillor Coutts (March 6) appears to have such scant regard for the value of the small family farm as typified by the county council smallholding which, no less than wildlife, seems to be an endangered species. One can see only too well the results of councils selling part or all of their estates in that viable family-worked enterprises have disappeared for good, to be swallowed up by already large adjacent farms.

The sale of these estates by apparently shortsighted local politicians could be said to constitute a breach of faith, both with the tenants and the former council members who had the vision and foresight to build up these estates by judicious purchase.

Their intent was that the small family farm should be an important part of the living countryside and not merely a part of a megafarm system of cereal monoculture.

Some county councils as well as

the Government, it seems, have an odd two-faced attitude to the countryside. One of their functions is to maintain and promote employment within the county and yet the sale of these estates is often reducing employment in the very rural areas where it is needed.

Equally, the cost per worker of establishing factory units by councils in rural areas to counter unemployment could exceed the cost of providing the family farms which are busily being sold off.

I do not dispute Councillor Coutts's contention that the farming ladder is virtually non-existent but, as a member of the Small Farmers' Association, I feel that such a ladder is not necessarily essential if we can eliminate the psychological barrier to prosperity from small farms and the pompous assumption that small farms are mere stepping stones to something bigger and better.

Yours faithfully,  
ANTONY PALMER,  
23 Pentlands Court,  
Cambridge,  
March 10.

### Purbeck claim on oil wealth

From the Reverend Canon W. D. O'Hanlon

Sir, The argument in the thoughtful letter from Mr Essex (March 16) applies to the Isle of Purbeck, where no local benefit accrues from the rich oilfield shortly to be transferred from British Gas into private hands for a sum approaching £400m.

A trickle of mineral wealth has flowed from Purbeck since Iron Age times, first from the clay for pottery, from the Kimmeridge shale for bracteates, found as far away as the tombs of Egypt, from the vein of Purbeck marble (now worked out) for Roman bath tiles, medieval monuments, and the shafts of many cathedrals and parish churches, and from the various veins of Purbeck stone to fashion, amongst other things, the buildings of London and the pavements of its streets.

It is anomalous, to say the least, that the river of wealth now flowing from oil should bring no benefit to the district of its source. I suggest that the imminent transfer arrangements should include support for the National Trust, now the largest local landowner, and also the Purbeck District Council.

Yours faithfully,  
DOUGLAS O'HANLON,  
Crown Hill,  
Bon Accord Road,  
Swanage, Dorset.

### Royal Court Theatre

From the Director of the National Theatre and others

Sir, It has been reported in the press that there is currently a proposal before the Arts Council that the Royal Court's grant should be discontinued on the grounds that the National Theatre and the Royal Shakespeare Company have been able to take on the job of presenting the best new English plays of the day.

As directors of these theatres, we would like to dissociate ourselves from this absurd point of view. The Royal Court, through its distinctive and continuing programme of new work, is able to nourish writers at a crucial stage of their careers.

It provides the best possible bridge between the fringe and the larger stages. It continues to present plays of the very best quality, which will now not otherwise be done.

We are shocked if this proposal is being seriously entertained and would regard the closing of the Royal Court as an unmitigated disaster for the whole theatrical life of the country.

Yours faithfully,  
PETER HALL, Director,  
The National Theatre,  
TERRY HANDS,  
TREVOR NUNN,  
Joint Artistic Directors,  
Royal Shakespeare Company,  
As from: The National Theatre,  
South Bank, SE1,  
March 17.

### Arts Council ruling

From Mr Dannie Abse and others

Sir, Your report (March 5) of the rumoured closure of the Arts Council's literature department deserves to be noted more widely than by those who normally take an interest in literary politics.

Arts Council assistance to literature (less than 2 per cent of its total budget) has never been commensurate with the importance of the art. But any decision to axe the literature department would threaten the work of the many individuals and organisations actively concerned with promoting literature.

The Poetry Society, through its close contacts with writers, publishers, bookshops, schools and literature festival organisers, is acutely aware of the importance of a committed and professional literature department staff and a sensitive and experienced advisory panel.

Without them there would be a real danger that even the present limited role of the Arts Council in promoting literature would be jeopardised, with damaging consequences for all the readers, writers, publishers and others who benefit from it.

Yours sincerely,  
DANNIE ABSE (President, The Poetry Society),  
ALAN BROWNJOHN (Chairman),  
BRIAN G. MITCHELL (Director & General Secretary),  
PAMELA CLUNIES-ROSS (Director, National Poetry Secretariat),  
The Poetry Society,  
21 Earls Court Square, SW5.

### The right to work

From Mr Anthony Kestin

Sir, Mr Brittan says, "It would be a sad day for this country if it would be regarded as a matter of controversy to suggest that people should not be able to go to work if they want to. Those who want to work have the right to work and they will have all the protection the law can provide".

Would he be good enough, through your columns, to dispel my nagging doubts that these words apply to the three million plus unemployed in addition to those whose jobs are likely to be lost through the closure of sectors of the coalmining industry?

Yours faithfully,  
A. J. KESTIN,  
20 Chichester Street, Chester,  
March 16.

### The Labour years

From Sir Woodrow Wyatt

Sir, Dr John Campbell (March 16) complains of my correcting the one-sided account of the Bevan-Gaitskell conflict in my review of Dr Morgan's otherwise excellent book.

I was there. Drs Campbell and Morgan were not.

Yours faithfully,  
WOODROW WYATT,  
19 Cavendish Avenue, NW8,  
March 16.







## THE ARTS

## Galleries

## Photography inspired by painting

Julia Margaret Cameron, 1815-1879  
John Hansard, Southampton

Eugène Atget: Photographs of Old France  
Serpentine

A major exhibition devoted to the work of Julia Margaret Cameron, such as that at the John Hansard Gallery of Southampton University until April 28 (after which it will tour the regions as well as visiting Bonn, Paris, Madrid and New York), is particularly timely at the moment, coinciding as it does with the Tate's definitive Pre-Raphaelite show, to which she provides in certain respects a photographic equivalent. But the collection also gives food for thought about the nature, advantages and limitations of the photographic image and the difference between "photographic" detail in painting and "painterly" effects in photography.

In some ways Mrs Cameron's attitudes, though chronologically post-Pre-Raphaelite, were aesthetically of the generation preceding them. She was one of those redoubtable Victorian ladies, like Mrs Jameson and Lady Eastlake, who acquired expertise in the history of, particularly, Renaissance art. When she took up photography, in her late forties, she was very conscious of exploring it as an artistic medium, and never seems to have questioned for a moment that her models should be drawn from painting. She was particularly influenced by Raphael, Michelangelo and Guido Reni (enough to set any self-respecting Pre-Raphaelite's hair on end), and in many cases deliberately adapted poses and compositions from them, via the reproductions published by the Arundel Society. But she was also a close friend of the Tennysons, her near neighbour in the Isle of Wight, and so naturally she was attracted to Tennyson's poetry, in much the same way that the Pre-Raphaelites were, as a subject for her skills as an illustrator, and at least half her output was marked by a sort of Romantic medievalism very like their own.

And why not? After all, if today's orthodoxy suggests very different approaches to the art of photography, that does not mean that we need dismiss out of hand an approach which seemed right and logical a century ago. And yet there is something quite disturbing about the majority of her - I was going to say "fancy dress" subjects. That, in fact, is what most of them look like. We do not see this venerable gentleman as King Lear, but rather weedy-looking individual as Sir Lancelot, that long-necked, rather disgruntled looking girl as St Agnes or this hefty

lady in a funny hat as Zulchica, the Bride of Abydos. What we see are not literary abstractions, but very specific individual Victorians in costume, perhaps at one of those costume balls they so loved at the time, or playing elaborate charades.

Of course, much the same complaints have been levelled at many of the Pre-Raphaelites' historical pageants, or for that matter the classical scenes of Olympians like Leighton and Alma-Tadema. Often today we prefer the Pre-Raphaelites' reflections on contemporary life, or relish the historical and legendary scenes for the slightly surreal quality that this deeply anachronistic mixture of elements creates. Somehow the effect is not so radically disturbing in painting, however, since paint always retains some of its power to abstract and generalize. But, whether or not we are credulous enough to believe that the camera cannot lie, this element of inescapable particularity constantly gets in the way.

Naturally, that does not mean that the photographs are thus devoid of interest or aesthetic quality. If they do not succeed in their prime conscious intention, they still succeed triumphantly in other, subtler, less tangible ways. Clearly, as with all great photographers (for Mrs Cameron was certainly that), these photographs show us not just what was in front of the camera, but how the photographer saw it and what she saw in it. She obviously found beauty, wisdom, spirituality or whatever in certain physical types, and her favourite models recur constantly. But, even making full allowance for this kind of partiality, this collection does seem to demonstrate that in those days women - some women anyway - did look as the Pre-Raphaelites painted them, that their standards of beauty were not entirely imaginary. We can also see the shape of things to come: some portraits one would swear are of Vanessa Redgrave, others surely must be Virginia Woolf. But whoever they look like, and whoever they are supposed to be representing, these people, so exquisitely captured in the photographs, look like people, living and breathing before the camera. Whether true or an imaginative vision, they open with astonishing immediacy a window upon vanished time.

The photographs of Eugène Atget seem to be much simpler. While Mrs Cameron was very much the conscious, even self-conscious, artist, Atget was more like one of the heroic generation of Hollywood film directors, a professional doing quite a humble, straightforward job with no artistic pretensions. What he aimed at was, apparently, since he left no high-flown statements of intention - was to compile a library of photographic documents, to be of use to others, such as the academic painters to whom in early years he sold photographs of architectural details they could transplant directly to their paintings. He must himself have had a taste for the



Julia Margaret Cameron's *King Lear allotting his Kingdom to his three daughters* (1872); the models for Lear and Cordelia are Charles Hay Cameron, the photographer's husband, and Alice Liddell Carroll's "Alice"

outmoded, the moribund and the just plain peculiar, or he would not have taken so many more photographs of odd nooks and crannies and about-to-be-demolished buildings than the market could ever have justified, but he also engaged in possibly feasible (though all ultimately abortive) commercial enterprises like photographing the interiors of artistic and literary homes for a never-published book the model for which survives in the Musée Carnavalet.

We should probably beware of psychologizing, faced with a series like *Photographs of Old France* on show at the Serpentine Gallery until Sunday. It has been suggested, for instance, that Atget's apparent taste for photographing scenes devoid of human figures may signify that he had a bleak and lonely childhood. It has also been suggested that it was simply because to the end (he lived, active to the last, until 1927) his equipment remained so primitive he could not get people to hold still long enough. And quite possibly in thus concentrating on architectural or botanical documents he was just doing what his clients wanted.

All the same, there is unmistakably something mysterious and odd about Atget. Perhaps he is not such a cracked man as he is thought to be, but he certainly was, whether he thought so or not. His pictures are always immaculately composed and richly toned, even though his ideas on the pictorial are far from conventional. His subjects, perhaps, are more conventional than we tend to think, if we compare his photographs not so much with other photographers of his era but with the more conservative landscape painters active between 1890 and 1925: not the Impressionists and their followers, though he photographed many of their favourite haunts up and down the Seine and they generally shared his lack of interest in industrial landscape. But those still in the sober tradition of topographical illustration or those who held on to the ideas of Millet or Bastien-Lepage (especially the latter) would surely offer a close comparison with his quaint urban corners like *Beauvais, rue de Nicolas-Godin*, or the unobtrusive natural symbolism of a picture like *Ronde Amiens*, with its blasted tree growing out of or built into a wayside shrine.

Again, we do not know how far he took these pictures consciously to please himself or merely to supply a felt want. But it hardly matters, if they are not from a deliberate determination to make art, but from a total inability not to, they are then one of the most telling vindications of Surrealist belief in automatism, and it is only right that the Surrealists finally discovered this strange old man and claimed him for their own.

John Russell Taylor

Zeal is often inimical to objectivity and the trouble with drama-documentary is that the first half of that compound word can overwhelm the second. Horizon's *Prisoners of Incest*, on BBC2 last night, seemed to me to fall foul of both hazards.

The zeal was for the treatment initiated at the Great Ormond Street Hospital for Sick Children which aims to mitigate the damage to a family caused by incest. To this end, family and offender are reunited to be encouraged to communicate. A psychiatrist and a social worker sit in to facilitate this and the proceedings are relayed by television to experts sit and advise the psychiatrist during breaks.

Last night's situation was based on that of a real family, but played by actors. Each had studied a biography of the character to be played and

## Television Invalid context

discussions of the family's problems were held to support their improvisation, for that was what it was. The psychiatrist and assisting staff played themselves.

What it amounted to was a demonstration of a technique. The validity of such a simulation in any other sense is obviously questionable. It could have been contained - less dramatically, certainly, because the cast performed extremely well - as part of a more broadly-based programme which would have been more informative and less open to a charge of gimmickry.

There could also have been

an indication of the success of this treatment beyond *Horizon's* belief, implicit in the decision to show it in this form, and comment from others on it. I do not think that incest is as taboo a subject as the producer Robin Brightwell believes, for subjects do receive an airing outside *Horizon*; and, if it were, this highly dramatic approach was harrowing enough to be counter-productive.

Mr Brightwell is not unaware of possible dissent. In *Radio Times* he anticipates criticism: "Some people will say we haven't blamed the man enough. Others - the anti-shrink lobby - will be critical of the psychiatrist. Then there is the fact that it is a drama-documentary. Some people may object to that." Some people, too, might think that this programme lacked context and got hoist on its own petard. I would be one of those.

Dennis Hackett

## Concerts

into a dominant chord for ever, or in encouraging the soloists to make pure, powerful chords, or in reaching a blithe exaltation in the concluding burst of triple time.

The solo quartet of Helen Donath, Alfreda Hodgson, Robert Tear and John Shirley-Quirk was various but strong all through, and there were immediate studies of resilience from the Philharmonia Chorus, as well as from an orchestra singing their parts with the rest.

Paul Griffiths

## Philharmonia/Haitink

Festival Hall/Radio 3

I doubt if it is possible to get the *Missa Solemnis* wrong, but certainly there are performances that get it more right than others, and Sunday's, conducted by Bernard Haitink, was one of those almost excessively marvellous occasions I do not expect to hear matched this side of eternity. The key to its success was in the harmony.

Mr Haitink did not take the common course of trying to project the work as a symphony, or, if he did, it was a Bruckner symphony he had in mind and not one by Beethoven: a symphony where the old modes have begun to cut the music adrift from its roots, begun to dissipate the onward momentum, so that harmonic movement tends to be erratic or else almost non-existent.

Only a performance which attends to all of the harmony, instead of trying to rescue a smooth line of progress, can penetrate to this essence of the work's nature, and only a performance of strong rhythmic feeling can then keep it from falling apart.

That was another of Mr Haitink's achievements. Speeds were often fast, and contrasts of speed and texture very marked. The opening of the Gloria, for instance, had the chorus shouting in song to make their upward scales great streaks of lightning across the heavens of heaven.

Mr Haitink then accepted the complete change of musical character that comes with the consideration of peace, but because the performance was clearly articulated it kept a sense of continuing pulse, which here was much more appropriate a generator of movement than any attempt to exert harmonic pressure.

The same clarity of articulation was invaluable in the fugues, not only in distinguishing lines but also in defining the themes as strings of individual if related notes and not as completely unified entities.

The means were then available for delicate detachment in the fugues of the Credo and Agnus Dei, or for a similarly objective majesty in that of the Gloria, which was quite magnificent in realizing the awesomeness of that moment when the music threatens to freeze

Anthony Masters

generate the greater interest in programming. That "very original talent", which Tchaikovsky grudgingly said flashed out occasionally from the "coarse, unpolished, ugly" face of Mussorgsky, was revealed at once: in the fine, silver-pointed vocal line and spare accompaniment of "Where are you little star?"

Hilary Finch

## Bishop-Kovacevich Queen Elizabeth Hall

Full of orchestral evocations, Berg's *Sonata* is post-*Tristan* piano music, and on Sunday Stephen Bishop-Kovacevich made an excellent presentation of its essential fluidity. Compositionally speaking, one event melts into another in a way that offers an enlightening perspective on the formal precision - no matter how adventurous - of Beethoven's "Waldstein" Sonata. In the circumstances it was a pity this received a much less good performance than the Berg.

There was a frequent tendency for the left hand to overbalance the right, and one did wonder if this was due to Mr Bishop-Kovacevich having the curtains at the back of the stage partly drawn aside. Certainly the basic energy embodied in Beethoven's many drumming, repeated-note figures in the first movement overpowered the treble's more various and developed thoughts.

The exceptions were the several statements of the second subject, which had a lyrical poise that contrasted rather too much with the surroundings. On a similar level was the slow movement, and Mr Bishop-Kovacevich glided into the final Rondo with an effective gentleness. It was unfortunate that in the louder episodes the weaknesses of the opening movement reappeared.

An altogether different story was told in Brahms. The first intermezzo of Op 117 was exquisitely judged, and seemed like a play of subtle half-lights rather than of notes. In the third number of this set there was an extraordinarily supple ebb and flow to the music's intensity, and there was similar playing in the four intermezzos of Op 116.

Max Harrison

## Theatre Black Mas New End

Starting at high tension and pretty well maintaining it for an hour and a half, John Constable's first play is an impressive display of skill and nerve, fully matched by the Poco Novo company under Roland Rees's direction. Noises off deafeningly announce Trinidad's Carnival

before the show even starts; then an English girl and boy burst into the seedy hotel lobby (presented to the life in Peter Whiteman's set) already at screaming point from noise, groping males, claustrophobia and despair of ever getting back to their beds across town. Apparently a welcome refuge, the hotel is also established as a place from which there is temporarily no escape.

The nightmare closes in from then on, intensified by the subtlest means. The hotelier (Trevor Butler), all black chest

and white teeth, cheerfully advises them to trust nobody, not even himself. Periodic shocks include James Snell's arrival as a priming witness, only a white Trinidadian property dealer in masquerade, but try telling yourself that at the time.

The woman (Carole Harrison) is a promising flashpoint. Lead singer with the Radios (wonderful), she can control an audience's turn-on but not an individual's. While Mr Snell's anger at being rebuffed, joints and too many drinks raise the

temperature still higher, the characters have been carefully picked for political as well as sexual tension: the Black wanting one white man's money and the other's woman, the prosperous settler terrified of another Black who has stolen his wife, the British liberal despising a white exploiter.

Whose murder will it end in? Mr Butler recounts the African legend of Anancy the spider, who wilyly cheated death. Anancy's web, entangling the play, as a carnival disguise, as a

nest on the wall or a macabre joke. Miss Harrison, having a seizure or possibly bewitched, speaks of her "Venus's fly trap" in inspired multiple role-play. The elaborate role-playing ritual excruciating her, however portrayed or incredible, fits up the images in a complex of free association that Mr Constable clearly enjoys. Though too unreal to intensify the menace, it is intertidally sustained in performance until the final shot releases us.

Anthony Masters

## Law Report March 20 1984

## Mobility pension forfeited on leaving country

Insurance Officer v Hemmatt  
Before Lord Justice Waller, Lord Justice Oliver and Lord Justice Purchas  
[Judgment delivered March 13]

Section 104 (1)(b) of the Social Security Act 1975 enabled an insurance officer or a local tribunal to review a decision to award a mobility allowance under section 37A of the 1975 Act where the person to whom the allowance had been made subsequently effected a permanent change of residence, so that he no longer "satisfies prescribed conditions as to residence or presence in Great Britain" within the meaning of section 37A.

The Court of Appeal so held following an appeal by the insurance officer from the decision of the Social Security Commissioner on November 15, 1982. Mr Simon D Brown for the insurance officer, Mr Richard Sheldon for the claimant, Mr LORD JUSTICE OLIVER said that the claimant, Maurice George Edward Hemmatt, having become disabled to an extent which prevented him walking, had applied for a mobility allowance on July 29, 1976.

Following a report from a medical practitioner that he was likely to continue to be unable to walk until pensionable age, he was awarded a mobility allowance from July 29, 1976 until May 29, 1983, the date of his sixty-fifth birthday. On September 20, 1979, he went to live in the Irish Republic.

The insurance officer thereupon reviewed the original award and issued a decision disallowing further payments of the mobility allowance. The claimant appealed to a local tribunal, which allowed his appeal, and the insurance officer appealed to the Social Security Commissioner.

That appeal was ultimately argued on the question whether on the true construction of the Social Security Act 1975 and the regulations made under it, the original decision to award a mobility allowance was reviewable at all by reason of a change of residence after the date from which the award took effect.

The commissioner concluded that the statute conferred no power to review the original decision; or, alternatively, that if it did, the

power was inapplicable in the case of a change of residence.

His Lordship read section 37A of the 1975 Act (which had been introduced by section 22 of the Social Security Pensions Act 1975). Subsection (7) was the critical provision in relation to the present appeal. The effect of the section could be summarized as follows.

The claimant had to fulfil two qualifications: first, he had to comply with the "prescribed conditions" as to residence or presence; and, second, he had to comply with the requirements of subsection (2) and the regulations made thereunder as to the extent and duration of his disability.

But the question of his entitlement, certainly as regarded his original claim for an allowance, had to be judged at the date when it was made, and the regulations made under it. The claim was received by the minister. The power to review decisions was contained in section 104 of the Social Security Act 1975, subsection (1)(b) which provided for review where "there has been any relevant change of circumstances since the decision was given". Leaving aside subsection (7) of

section 37A, there was nothing on the face of the section or of the regulations which indicated that satisfying the prescribed conditions as to residence and presence in Great Britain was a once-for-all condition which did not have to endure throughout the period over which the allowance was payable.

On the ordinary reading of subsection (1) the requirement of residence was one which continued to apply in just the same way as the requirement of continuing disability, and that was entirely consistent with regulation 23(3) of the Social Security Mobility Allowance Regulations (SI 1975 No 1573) which referred to the conditions to be fulfilled "on any day".

Indeed, that, accorded with common sense, for it was difficult to see why the legislature should have thought it either necessary or desirable to provide lifelong benefits at the expense of the British taxpayer, who might immediately leave the country and go to live elsewhere.

Moreover, the concept of a continuing necessity to satisfy the prescribed conditions was one

which was clearly reflected in the analogous provisions of the same chapter of the Act which provided for other non-contributory benefits.

Despite Mr Sheldon's clear and helpful argument, his Lordship could not find anything in the legislation itself or in the regulations made thereunder which led to the conclusion that subsection (7) of section 37A was dealing with anything but the original claim for allowance or which, with respect to the commissioner, compelled a construction which was not only out of line with the clearly expressed legislative intention as to other forms of non-contributory benefit but which seemed contrary to common sense.

In his Lordship's judgment, section 104 (1) (b) of the Act enabled a review to be held on a permanent change of residence and he would therefore allow the appeal and remit the matter to the commissioner for decision on the other points argued before him.

Lord Justice Purchas and Lord Justice Oliver agreed. Solicitors: DHSS Solicitors; Ralph Haring & Co.

## Whether a person is a member of the household

N (a Minor) v Birmingham District Council  
Before Sir John Arnold, President  
[Judgment delivered March 15]

The question whether a person was or was not a member of the household depended upon the view the fact-finding tribunal took of all the circumstances as a matter of fact and degree.

Sir John Arnold, President of the Family Division, so held when dismissing an appeal by the minor from the decision of Birmingham Juvenile Court which as a preliminary to care proceedings found that another child was a member of the household to which the appellant belonged.

Section 1 of the Children and Young Persons Act 1969 provided: "(2) If the care of a child or young person is brought under this section it is of the opinion that any of the following conditions is satisfied with respect to him, that

is to say - (a) his proper development is being avoidably prevented or neglected or his health is being avoidably impaired or neglected or he is being ill-treated; or (b) it is probable that the condition set out in the preceding paragraph will be satisfied in his case, having regard to the fact that the court or another court has found that that condition is or was satisfied in the case of another child or young person who is or was a member of the household to which he belongs... and also that he is in need of care or control... then... the court may... make such an order."

Mr Richard Woodhouse and Mr John Harvey for the appellant minor, Mr R. M. K. Gray, QC for Birmingham District Council.

THE PRESIDENT said that on September 1, 1978 the Birmingham Juvenile Court had made a care order relating to an older child of the mother of the appellant minor.

The older child was the child of the mother and her then husband. She had been neglected and was still in the care of the local authority.

The mother had separated from her husband, had moved house, there had been divorce and in 1983 she had given birth to the boy, the subject of the proceedings. The claim was the man with whom she was now living. At the hearing it was submitted that the older child was not a member of the household to which the boy belonged and that the condition set out in section 1(2) (b) was not satisfied.

In *England v Secretary of State for Social Services* (1982) 3 FLR 222, the word "household" in section 1(1) of the Family Income Supplement Act 1970 had been considered by Mr Justice Woolf who at p224, after considering *Simmons v Pizzey* (1979) AC 37 had said: "There are three categories of situation which can arise before the tribunal of fact. The first

category... where the only decision which the tribunal can, as a matter of law, come to is that the persons concerned are members of the household."

"The second... where the only decision which the tribunal of fact can come to is that the persons concerned are not members of the household."

"The third category... where it is proper to regard the persons concerned either as being members or not being members of the household depending on the view which the fact-finding tribunal takes of all the circumstances as a matter of fact and degree."

In the context of section 1(2)(b) of the 1969 Act the care and welfare of the child was a circumstance relevant to the question to the household to which the older and the younger child belonged. When determining what was a household the court had to have regard to the persons in the group

comprising the household and not to the locality.

In the present case the mother was the dominant person. In 1978 the older child had lived with the mother and the father, now the younger child lived with the mother and his father. The present case was a third category case as described by Mr Justice Woolf. The justices had concluded that the older child was a member of the household to which the younger child belonged.

Whether a person was or was not a member of the household depended upon the view that the fact-finding tribunal took of all the circumstances as a matter of fact and degree. No fact had emerged to render the view that the justices took untenable. The appeal would be dismissed.

Solicitors: Mandelberg, Rosenberg & Co. Birmingham; Mr G. W. T. Pitt, Birmingham.



26th Issue  
Certificates  
WITHDRAWN

The 26th Issue National Savings Certificate was withdrawn from sale on 19th March.

Details of the 27th Issue are being announced separately.

Issued by the Department for National Savings.



● Rich variety of entries

COMPUTER HORIZONS

● All our prize-winners

# 12-year-olds among Top Ten winners

A group of twelve-year-olds formed the youngest group of prizewinners in The Times National Microcomputer Challenge, whose judges have announced the ten regional winners.

The level of the 500 entries was high, and in many cases, the regional co-ordinators felt there was great potential for commercial use of many ideas of the projects, entered to provide socially useful ideas.

Projects ranged from a system to control diabetes diets to knitting patterns, integrated alarm systems, fish

disease diagnosis, acoustic braille, mountain rescue survival, screening for blood pressure, calculations for maintenance settlements in divorce cases, and diagnosis of hay fever.

In several regions, the judges found the entries were so numerous, and of such high quality, that they decided to add commendations in addition to the three prizewinners. The ten regional winners will now become contestants in the national finals, which will be held at the Holiday Inn, Marble Arch, London, on April 18, as

part of the London Festival of Computing. ROBERT BEATTIE, a sixteen-year-old student from Aberdeen, representing a "Teach yourself to read" project, won first prize in the Scottish region, for an easy learning aid to reading, involving computer graphics and video tape.

Another student, eighteen-year-old JEFFREY COOKE from Derry, Northern Ireland, representing St Columba's College, gained a first prize in the North West and Northern Ireland, for a well thought-out project using acoustic braille. At present his group has an early prototype running, and this is proving useful to blind users, who are able to use a computer with sound instead of visual characters, and a simplified keyboard.

The social uses continue with the winner from the North East, MR W DAWSON, of Middlesbrough, with his entry on behalf of a resource unit at Beverley school for the Deaf in Middlesbrough. Their project involves recording sign language on disc, using light pens, and animation.

From Yorkshire and Humberside, the winner was ERNEST PHILLIPS, a building surveyor from Newby Clapham, N. Yorks. His entry was for a computer-controlled burglar alarm, which, connected to a standard security system, could then be linked via a telephone



## THE MIDLANDS

1st R. Collins (Student 20) "The Hawthorns", University of Keele, Keele, Staffs. Project: Educational software for retarded children.  
2nd A. Thornton (Schoolboy 11) "Greenways", Old Road, Riddington, Nottingham. Project: Programme to help the aged memories.  
3rd Paranjit Singh (Student 16) 45 Oxford Road, West Bromwich, West Midlands. Project: Aid for speech deficiencies.  
1st reserve: A P Bateson (RAF 48), Woodward Farm, The Brice, Old Leake, Boston, Lincs. Project: Early warning system for aged.  
2nd reserve: P P Soper (Systems analyst 41) "Parsons Close", Oakham Road, Tilton on the Hill, Leicester. Project: Legless secretary for the blind.

modern to a neighbour's computer or central police station.  
ROBERT COLLINS, a 20-year old student from Keele University, won first prize in the Midlands region for his submission for educational software for retarded children. The judges said the use of computers in special schools could have far-reaching effects. He has already started a project with two university departments to study the use of computers in these schools.

The normally time consuming task of calculating maintenance in matrimonial cases is covered in the first prize entry by solicitor DAVID GREEN from Castle Morris, near Haverfordwest, in the Welsh region.

The South West, normally a computer literate area, did not disappoint this time, and the judges added four commendations to the three winning entries. First prize was won by a Naval officer JON DINGLE from Plymouth. His entry, "Bikesafe", uses the popular arcade style game to teach young motorcyclists roadcraft and safety.

The only woman to gain a first prize is ROSEMARY CRAWFORD, organiser of the WRVS in Berkhamshead. She won the Northern Counties section with her proposals for computerising her local "Meals on Wheels" service, keeping updates on rounds, customers' holidays, extra meals and another details.

JOHN ADRIAN, a twelve-year-old from Beckenham, headed a group of five boys from Kelsey Park school, Beckenham, to win first prize in the Southern Home Counties region with their entry to help dyslexics to read. Using computer graphics and repetitive points, children can be encouraged to overcome their difficulty.

Another anti-crime system won first prize in the Greater London section for MR T. G. WILLS-SANDFORD, whose proposal dealt with the use of a micro as an aid to home-beat policemen, maintaining a easy reference files of keyholders, unattended premises, local crime trends, and simple word processing for local police newsletters.

To all those who took part in the competition we offer our thanks and to the winners our congratulations.

● First prizewinners receive a BBC micro model B; second a £50 W. H. Smith voucher and third, a £30 voucher.

## UK events

Microcomputer Applications Workshop, Computer Laboratory, Liverpool University, March 26, 27, 28. Sinclair Education Exhibition, Central Hall, Westminster, March 28-30.

Microcomputer Networks Workshop, Computer Laboratory, Liverpool University, March 27, 28. Electron & BBC Micro User Show, New Horticultural Hall, Westminster, London, March 29-April 1.

Computer Aided Design, Met Exhibition Hall, April 3-5. Artificial Intelligence Seminar, City University, London, April 7-8. Sir Frederick Osborn School Computer Fair, Sir Frederick Osborn School, Welwyn Garden City, April 8.

COMPEC WALES, Cardiff University, April 10-12. Computer for Builders Exhibition, Cavendish Conference Centre 82, New Cavendish Street, London W1, April 12.

Personal Computer Games Show, Solihull Conference Centre, Birmingham, April 20-22.

## Overseas

Hanover Fair, Hanover, Germany, April 4-11. Videotex '84, Hyatt Regency, Chicago, April 16-18. Computerised Office Equipment Exhibition, Rosemont, USA, May 1-3.

Compiled by Personal Computer News

Computer Professionals  
FREE LIST  
ALL AREAS  
OF THE UK  
CHOICE  
COMPUTER RECRUITMENT

## The Times Microcomputer Challenge Regional Winners

### SCOTLAND

1st Robert Beattie (Student 16) Allans Aberdeen  
Project: Teach yourself to read  
2nd Tariq Hamid (Schoolboy 17) 23 Barrachnie Road Glasgow  
Project: Read the written word aloud

3rd Rev C Brockie (Teacher 35) 51 Portland Road Kilmarnock  
Project: Deal sign language  
Reserve A Reade (Teacher 35) 18 Kingess Road Dunfermline Fife  
Project: Mountain rescue, survival

Reserve A G Imish (Accountant 49) Project: Mountain rescue, preventative  
Commanded R Clark (Bioengineer 29) c/o "Sionayde", Watt Road Bridge of Weir Renfrewshire  
Project: Fish disease diagnosis

### THE NORTH AND N IRELAND

1st J E Cooke (Student 18) 152 Gallaigh Park, Derry, N Ireland  
Project: Acoustic braille  
2nd Christine Cowper (Housewife/Teacher 41) The Vicarage, Bridelkirk, Cockermouth, Cumbria.  
Project: Community computers  
3rd R H Mayne (Electronic Engineer 28) Guest Youth Workshop Ltd, 4D Linenhall Street, Belfast  
Project: Intelligent computer switch for the deaf

1st W Dawson (Illustrator 33) 40 Cambridge Road, Linthorpe, Middlesbrough, Cleveland.  
Project: "Total Communication" for the deaf  
2nd D Rhodes (School master 47) 10 Tankerville Terrace, Newcastle upon Tyne.  
Project: Diet/disease correlation  
3rd G Sephton (Student 15) 11 Bassess Drive, Sunderland, Tyne & Wear.  
Project: OAP protection/help  
Reserve M Douglass (Systems programmer 30) 38 Granville Street, Gateshead, Tyne & Wear.  
Project: Info advisory system  
Reserve D Irwin (Business creation 28) Business Creation 28, Newcastle upon Tyne  
Project: "Make your own job", self-employment

1st D A R Green (Solicitor 49) Rhyd yr Harding, Castle Morris, N. Haverfordwest  
Project: Maintenance calculations in divorce settlements  
2nd Judith L Moore (Housewife 36) 4 Borrowdale Close, Panylan Cardiff  
Project: Social communication programme  
3rd Jill C Hutt (Unemployed 38) 6 Greenland Crescent, Fairwater Cardiff  
Project: Enquiry stats programme for the homeless

### THE NORTH EAST

1st J Dingle (Naval officer 26) Blanchard House, Golden Square Colebrook, Plymouth  
Project: Bikesafe  
2nd A R Tanner (Consultant physician 50) Granville House, Hayesfield Park Bath  
Project: Diagnosis of asthma and hayfever  
3rd Claire Kinsey and A Sinclair (Students, both 22) Speech Therapy Dept Frenchay Hospital Bristol

1st J Dingle (Naval officer 26) Blanchard House, Golden Square Colebrook, Plymouth  
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### YORKSHIRE AND HUMBERSIDE

1st E Phillips (Building surveyor 41) Tarm Head, Newby, Clapham, N Yorks  
Project: Micro as an anti-burglary device  
2nd T Oldham (Nurse teacher 41) 30 Cockerham Avenue, Barnsley, S Yorks  
Project: Computers and the nursing process  
3rd M P Doyle (Teacher 35) 37 Bright Street, Skipton  
Project: Commonsense software for the bodied and the disabled  
Reserve A Gordhams (GP 51) Ashby Clinic, Colton Lane, Scunthorpe  
Project: High blood pressure screening by micro  
Commanded R B Ward (Research Assistant 34) 215 Marlborough Avenue, Hull  
Project: Interconnected micros for educational purposes  
Commanded S J Ashburne (Unemployed 36) "Beachies", St James Place, Basildon, Shipley, W Yorks. Project: "Characteristics" Commanded Monica Matthey (Housewife 52) 14 Brookfields, Netherlawn, Wakefield, W Yorks. Project: Knitting patterns.

1st D A R Green (Solicitor 49) Rhyd yr Harding, Castle Morris, N. Haverfordwest  
Project: Maintenance calculations in divorce settlements  
2nd Judith L Moore (Housewife 36) 4 Borrowdale Close, Panylan Cardiff  
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Project: Enquiry stats programme for the homeless

Project: Microassisted speech therapy  
Commanded Pamela E Singleton (Housewife 55) 51 Griffin Close Stow on the Wold Glos  
Project: Home hunting  
Commanded J Lancaster (Schoolboy 14) 9 Cleave Cloud Lane Prestbury Cheltenham Glos  
Project: School time tabling  
Commanded Dr R H Lewis (Oceanographer 40) 21 Pomeroy Avenue Brixham Devon  
Project: Drift - research and rescue aid  
Commanded Dawn Adams (Volunteer bureau organiser 50) Montrose House Wellington Street Cheltenham Glos  
Project: Voluntary organisation databank

### NORTHERN HOME COUNTIES

1st Rosemary E Crawford (WRVS organiser 50) 18 Montague Road Berkhamstead Herts  
Project: An aid to the meals on wheels service  
2nd Stephanie Jenkins (Secretary 32) 39 Kennett Road, Headington Oxford  
Project: Knitting patterns  
3rd P Chase (Student 14) 17 Millers Road, Toft, Cambridge  
Project: Computer games for the blind  
Reserve H R Schurt (Applied biologist 49) Meadowsdown, 17 Hinton Road Fulbourn, Cambridge  
Project: Establishing "need" as a basis for staffing homes  
Reserve D M Floyd (Operational research 41) Beechwood, Beech Lane, Jordans, Bucks  
Project: Vocational guidance system for disabled  
Commanded Chadwell Heath High School Pupils (Mrs C M Bassant) Christie Gardens, Chadwell Heath Romford, Essex  
Project: Computerised health service  
Commanded R Burgess (Systems analyst 46) 3 Mulberry Close, Crowthorne, Berks  
Project: Chinese script

### THE SOUTH WEST

1st J Dingle (Naval officer 26) Blanchard House, Golden Square Colebrook, Plymouth  
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1st J Dingle (Naval officer 26) Blanch











# FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

## Prime pressure on sterling and gilts

American developments weighed heavily on the gilts market yesterday, as US prime rates rose by half a point across the board, the first increase since last August. Sterling took part of the strain, dropping at one stage through \$1.44, but gilt-edged prices sagged nevertheless. Shorts lost a quarter and longs closed down around a half. The American long bond traded some half point easier in New York during the morning.

The crude market reaction to the jump in US interest rates is to depict it as part of a duel of Volcker v Reagan roadshow in which an intransigent Federal Reserve Board chairman is currently outslugging a vote-sensitive President. This is an oversimplification. As pointed out here last week, the regular monetary indicators have been throwing out signals which contradict readings provided by "real" economy data: a slowdown, for example, in M1 countered by a sharp rise in industrial production and housing starts.

On the face of it, the pick-up in the real economy ought to show through in a sharp rise in demand for credit, and there have been signs of this in recent weeks, with banks' reserves rising sharply. But the Fed funds rate has also been edging ahead, indicating that although the Fed has been willing to supply credit, it has refused to flood the market. It prefers a delicate balancing act.

In this context, increases in prime rates is important because they signal the pressure on credit. They are likely to have a sharp effect on expectations. These may well take a further jolt later in the week when GNP figures for the first quarter and February consumer prices are published. The market expects that the first quarter figure will show an annualized rise of some 6 per cent - certainly no indication that the economy is slowing down - while the Consumer Price Index may also suggest that US inflation is creeping up again.

In the gilts market yesterday opinion on the significance of the US prime rates rise was divided. Despite the fall in the market, the old argument about "decoupling" - the UK can survive a rise in US rates - was heard again, and it received a certain endorsement from hard facts in the market place. Stock that was sold was hard to buy back again.

But more bearish noises could also be heard, notably from brokers Phillips and Drew. They draw a sharp distinction between the movement in UK rates which, they suggest, owes much to political inspiration; and the USA, where the Fed is making a series of preemptive moves to help sustain the dollar.

Meanwhile, the Bank of England sits quietly in the background, probably congratulating itself on staying out of the market last Friday, when conditions for a new tap looked so attractive. Nevertheless, although the Bank avoided the possible debacle of a stranded tap, immediately after a well-received Budget, it is a reasonable assumption that, sooner or later, the Government Broker will return to the market, in selling conditions which seem more likely to worsen than to improve.

One way out for the authorities, if they find themselves obliged to sell more debt, might be to evade the interest rate issue altogether by issuing deep discounted stock, with built-in capital gains, on dummy interest rates which are only tenuously linked to the US rate spiral.

### Morgan Grenfell names its price

Morgan Grenfell, one of our top two merchant banks, has had another very profitable year. Disclosed profits after transfers to hidden reserves are up by a quarter to £16.5m. Investment management had a very successful year. Corporate finance has done particularly well with capital issues a record both by number and value. Last year, Morgan Grenfell underwrote about one quarter by value of

all rights issues in the domestic equity market.

Arguably, MG is just the kind of innovative and thrusting merchant bank which should be forming the nucleus of the new breed of investment banking and securities trading firms needed to keep the British flag flying against the big American and Japanese brokerage houses. Yet with the exception of S H Warburg, the independent merchant banks have so far not figured in the great securities industry shake-up.

The reason is simple enough. The asking prices for brokers and jobbers are being bid up too far. Not even Morgan Grenfell can compete in a sellers' market against Barclays Bank which recently tied in with the jobbers Wedd Durlacher and the brokers de Zoete & Bevan, nor against County Bank and Samuel Montagu, two merchant banks with the resources of joint stock banks behind them.

Is Morgan Grenfell disappointed at not getting a slice of Wedd Durlacher? (they did talk) according to Lord Catto, chairman of Morgan Grenfell Holdings, "not at that price." He seemed to have a fair idea what the price was (estimates suggest that Barclay's deal valued Wedd at £100m upwards), the amount of goodwill was clearly large.

Morgan Grenfell's strategy in the present climate is to develop as a market-maker and distributor of all fixed interest securities which it issues or is likely to issue, as well as becoming a trader in the gilts market. A lesser priority, but still a possibility is trading in the equity market.

Recent moves to strengthen the bank's capability in the secondary Eurobond market is part of this thrust. As to how the rest of the strategy is put into effect, Morgan Grenfell claims to be still making up its mind.

### BR puts Sealink on the slipway

Meanwhile, Morgan Grenfell was in action on another front yesterday, when, in its capacity as adviser to British Rail, it formally started the auction for Sealink, the latest candidate in the Government's privatization programme.

The bank last night wrote to more than 30 potential bidders setting out the terms on which British Rail's ferry and harbour business will be sold, and asking for firm displays of interest within the next 14 days. British Rail will then draw up a shortlist and provide those companies on it with a confidential memorandum about Sealink's profitability and financial state of health.

Trafalgar House, P & O, Sea Containers and European Ferries (whose bid for Sealink was blocked by the Monopolies Commission three years ago) have all expressed interest in buying Sealink. A consortium consisting of the National Freight Consortium - itself denationalized not so long ago - and the management of Sealink is also interested. It promises to be a lively auction.

Yesterday's announcement disclosed that Sealink made a profit before interest and tax last year of £12.8m, a considerable improvement on the previous year's £2.9m. Turnover was up from £232.3m to £264.8m. These figures are not that meaningful however, given the huge amount of debt in Sealink's balance sheet. Interest payments in 1982 amounted to £9.3m, enough to turn Sealink's pre-tax profit into an overall loss.

BR did say, however last night that the amount of debt in the balance sheet, which includes £48.5m owed to British Rail on intercompany account and £22m of unsecured loan stock, would be part of the negotiations with would-be bidders. If any of the debt were to be written off, it would have a significant impact on what bidders might be prepared to pay for Sealink.

Market estimates in the past have put the value at between £70m and £100m.

## P & O surprises market with £23m increase in profits

By William Kay, City Editor

The stock market was thrown yesterday by Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company's unheralded decision to release its annual results two months earlier than expected.

The deferred stock shot up from 306p to 314p in response to excellent profits. But it quickly fell - on the fears that the figures might be strong enough in themselves to ward off a revived takeover bid from Trafalgar House - which in any event is not certain.

Mr Jeffrey Sterling, P & O chairman, explained that the announcement had been brought forward with Trafalgar in mind. Last week the Department of Trade and Industry published a report by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission which concluded

that such a merger "may not be expected to operate against the public interest". Mr Sterling said: "With the possibility of a bid on the sidelines we want to make certain we had sufficient information and ammunition if it was needed."

P & O profit before tax has jumped from £23.5m in 1982 to £26.6m last year. Total external revenue was up from £1,222m to £1,314m. Operating costs rose more slowly, from £1,165m to £1,234m. Profits were also boosted by a decline of nearly 50m in interest charges, to £23.6m.

At the after-tax level, there has been a fall of more than £11m in extraordinary items, to £8.5m. Attributable profit has leapt from £791,000 to £31m, leaving earnings per unit of

stock more than doubled, from 14p to 28.2p. The final dividend is 8.5p, making an increase of 25 per cent for the year as a whole. The final payment will be made on May 10, compared with July 1 last year.

The improvement in profits has been achieved despite some continuing weaknesses. Ferries moved from breakeven into a £600,000 loss. Associates' bulk shipping profits fell from £11.3m to £5.5m.

There has been a dramatic fall in P & O's debt-equity ratio, thanks largely to Falco, the oil trading operation which Mr Sterling is thinking of selling.

A hidden windfall has come from an actuarial revaluation of the group pension fund. This

has produced a substantial surplus, and there is a £3m credit back to the company for 1982, followed by £4m in 1983 and subsequently.

City analysts see nothing but continued strength in the good sectors, and recovery in the poor. Predictions of 1984 pretax profits were immediately revised to the between £75m and £80m, and as much as £100m next year, when the new Royal Princess cruise ship becomes operational.

Such figures would make P & O a less digestible prospect for Trafalgar, whose profits are unofficially forecast at £100m for the year to end September.

To keep up the pressure, P & O is putting out its annual report on Friday.

## Shares slip from peak

The equity market passed for breath yesterday, after last week's record-breaking run, with share prices losing ground as profit-taking developed.

Prices closed at their low for the day, as well as Wall Street opened sharply down, by the decision of Continental Illinois Bank to raise its prime rate by a half per cent to 11½ per cent. This move by the American banks had been widely predicted in London after increased pressure on United States interest rates recently. As a result, the FT Index fell by 11.2 to 883.1.

### STOCK EXCHANGES

FT-SE 100 Index: 1109.7 down 18.8	High: 1125.9; Low: 1109.7
FT Index: 883.1 down 11.2	FT Gilts: 83.10 down 0.23
FT All Share: 524.10 down 4.79	Burgalins: \$1.52
Dataseam USM Leaders Index: 111.39 down 0.2	New York: Dow Jones Industrial Average: (latest) 1173.16 down 11.2
Nikkei Dow Jones Index: 10,479.80 up 8.16	Hongkong: Hang Seng Index: 1170.3 up 39.86
Amsterdam: 158.9 down 2.0	Sydney: AO Index: 738.6 up 4.8
Frankfurt: Commerzbank Index: 1032.2 down 6.7	Brussels: General Index: 145.02 up 0.17
Paris: CAC Index: 162.6 up 1.3	Zurich: SBA General: 308.0 down 1.1

### CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
Sterling \$1.4445 down 25pts
Index 80.0 down 0.1
DM 3.7975 up 0.0075
Fr 11.8850 down 0.0075
Yen 326.00 down 1.0
Dollar 127.2 up 0.5
DM 2.6275 up 0.0015
NEW YORK LATEST
Sterling \$1.4930
Dollar DM 2.8317
INTERNATIONAL
ECU 60.587588
SDR 107.314361

### INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Bank base rates: 8%
Finance houses: base rate 9%
Discount market loans: week fixed 9%
3 month interbank 8% - 8%
Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 10% - 10%
3 month DM 5% - 5%
3 month Fr 15% - 15%
US rates:
Bank prime rate 11-11.50
Fed funds 10
Treasury long bond 9% - 9.5%
ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period 1983-1984: 9.375 per cent.

## Profit fall hits Mirror flotation

By Philip Robinson

The £100m Stock Exchange flotation of Mirror Group Newspapers has been hit by disappointing profit figures, extensive rewriters of the prospectus and the unresolved dispute on the future of the magazine section (Times).

MGN should have been ready to sell its shares to the public on April 19. It now looks increasingly likely that it will only just meet the flotation deadline set by its parent company, Reed International.

Reed International do not rule out their books for a fortnight, for the 12 months to the end of March, but indications emerging from MGN are that losses from *Sporting Life* have grown from £2m to £3m and that *Sunday People* has lost between £1.8m and £2m.

These would be wiped out by the profits of the *Sunday Mirror* and *Daily Mirror*, which has just increased its cover price for the second time in three months.

The *Mirror* sisters are expected to earn profits of £6m, which together with the profitable *Scottish Daily Record* and *Sunday Mail* could turn in maybe an overall MGN profit of £4m.

This is much lower than the 1982 MGN profits figure of £8m, and way below the 1981 record of £12m.

MGN is due to go public after the £1 billion stock market debut of the Reuters news agency in mid-May. Reed International, anxious to sell *Mirror* for some time, took advantage of the *Mirror*'s 8 per cent stake in Reuters, worth roughly £70m, to sell it off.

Significantly, Reed was prepared to include Reuters value in the *Mirror* balance sheet before a firm price had been worked out. Now it will have the benefit of an exact value to underpin the offer price.

Mr Ken Moreton, Reed's financial director, said yesterday: "We are still on our original target set last year, and that was to float during the first half of this year."

Mr Moreton added: "The change of day has nothing to do with the figures. We never published a flotation day and we do not reveal our figures before we publish them to the Stock Exchange."

The delay is a setback for Mr Clive Thornton, MGN's chairman, who wanted to bring the same new approach to newspapers as he did to building societies when he was chairman of Abbey National.

He was unavailable for comment yesterday, but is known to be anxious to popularize the share flotation to the extent of giving the shares away as prize in the *Mirror* bingo competition and publishing a copy of the prospectus in all *Mirror* newspapers.

Still unresolved is how MGN, employing 600 journalists, will protect its editorial independence and political stance in the event of a takeover bid.

Terms have yet to be agreed on the split of the Reed International pension fund, with MGN arguing for a more than 50-50 split.

Criticism is now being voiced within MGN of the role played by Lazard Brothers, the merchant bank brought in to advise

## Exchange draws up answer to EEC law

By Philip Robinson

Civil servants and Stock Exchange officials appear to have worked out a way to make legally enforceable EEC directives compatible with the exchange's self-regulatory rules on the listing of securities.

The solution is now believed to be with the Attorney-General, who is expected to rule within a week on whether he thinks the compromise would be acceptable to Brussels.

The exchange's desire to keep its rules out of the statute books wherever possible is quite separate from the possibility of asking for legislation to protect investors from a "free for all" after negotiated commissions are introduced.

Problems arose last year when three EEC directives, dealing with minimum standards required for the public listing of securities, should have been introduced in Britain.



Sir Nicholas Goodison

The department of Trade and Industry was about to make the Stock Exchange, chaired by Sir Nicholas Goodison, the competent authority for the directives - allowing them to police new listings on a self-regulatory basis - when an international court ruled that the directive needed legal backing.

## United Biscuits bond

United Biscuits intends to offer for subscription - through its subsidiary, UB Finance BV - a £25m bond issue, due 1989, together with warrants to subscribe for 17.5 million shares of 25p each in UB.

The bonds and warrants are being offered in units of £1,000 principal amount of bonds and 700 warrants, each of which entitles the holder to subscribe for one share in UB shares.

The issue price of each unit is £1,000, of which £900 is in respect of the bonds and £100 for the warrants.

These bonds will be guaranteed by UB and will carry a yearly coupon of 8½ per cent.

Each warrant will entitle the holder to subscribe for one ordinary share at an exercise price of 155p. The warrants will be exercisable at any time from April 30, 1984, to March 31, 1987.

### Abridged Particulars

Application will be made to the Council of The Stock Exchange for the grant of permission to deal in the Ordinary Shares of North Sea & General Oil Investments PLC in the Unlisted Securities Market. It is emphasised that no application has been or is to be made for these securities to be admitted to listing. This advertisement does not constitute an offer or invitation to subscribe for or purchase shares.

## North Sea & General Oil Investments PLC

(Registered in England No. 897808)

(Incorporating Dawsea PLC)

## OFFER FOR SALE

by

Hambros Bank Limited

and

Samuel Montagu & Co. Limited

of

10,000,000 Ordinary Shares of £1 each at 125p per share payable in full on application

### SHARE CAPITAL

Authorised	Issued and now being issued fully paid
£30,000,000	£26,100,000
Ordinary Shares of £1 each	

The Group is engaged in exploration for, and production of, oil and gas in the North Sea. The Group has interests in three consortia which have North Sea Licences for blocks North of 62° latitude, in the Viking Graben and in the Southern North Sea. One discovery of significance to the Group, provisionally known as the Emerald Field, is in the course of appraisal. The Group also has a 0.25 per cent interest in the Forties Field. Full details of North Sea & General Oil Investments PLC and of this Offer for Sale, together with an Application Form, are contained in the Prospectus (on the terms of which alone applications will be considered) copies of which may be obtained from:-

Hambros Bank Limited,  
41 Bishopsgate,  
London, EC2P 2AA.

Samuel Montagu & Co. Limited,  
114 Old Broad Street,  
London, EC2P 2HY.

Rowe & Pitman,  
City Gate House, 39-45 Finsbury Square,  
London, EC2A 1JA.

Laurence, Prust & Co.,  
Basildon House, 7-11 Moorgate,  
London, EC2R 6AH.

and from the following branches of  
National Westminster Bank PLC

New Issues Department, PO Box 79,  
2 Princes Street, London, EC2P 2BD.  
Tel: 01-638 9181

Colmore Centre, 103 Colmore Row, Birmingham, B3 3NS

80 George Street, Edinburgh EH2 3DZ 8 Park Row, Leeds, LS1 1QS

14 Blythswood Square, Glasgow, G2 4AQ

32 Corn Street, Bristol, BS99 7UG

55 King Street, Manchester, M60 2DB

Particulars of the Company are available in the Extra Statistical Services.

The Application List for the shares now offered for sale will open at 10.00am on Friday, 23rd March, 1984 and may be closed at any time thereafter.

### NEWS IN BRIEF

## Bid to avert Argentine debt crisis

Hopes of avoiding a huge Argentinian debt crisis, now rest on an eleventh hour meeting next week between the International Bank Advisory Committee and Argentinian economic minister Senator Bernardo Grinspun at the seaside resort of Punta del Este.

The city is host to this year's annual meeting of the Washington-based Inter-American Development Bank. Top of the agenda will be Argentina's delicate debt position.

At present, Argentina is \$2.7 billion in arrears on interest payments. If these are not reduced by March 31, Argentina will be more than 90 days in arrears forcing US banks to drastically cut their first quarter profit figures.

### GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):  
\$392.15 pm \$393.80  
close \$394.25-\$394.75 [£273.25-274.75]  
New York (latest): \$394.00  
Kruggerand (per coin):  
406-407.50 (£281.25-282.25)  
Sovereigns (new):  
£92-93 (£63.75-64.50)  
Excludes VAT

## Bassett bolsters defence

By Jonathan Clare

Bassett Foods, maker of the famous liquorice allsorts, has forecast first-half profits of £1.5m, against £1.024m to reinforce its rejection of the all-share bid from Avana Group, the Cardiff-based food company.

But the big institutional

shareholders, which include M & G Recovery, Norwich Union and Pearl Assurance are still sitting on the fence ahead of Friday's closing date.

Bassett's share yesterday were 145p, little changed on the forecast, against the 152p value of the Avana offer.

## Austerity measures would hurt UK businesses

## Nigeria set to abandon projects

From John Lawless, Lagos

The Nigerian Government is likely to abandon all those projects which may cost more than £25m to complete.

The impact of such a move will be felt hard by British companies. But this could also reduce the high risk of the Export Credits Guarantee Department in the market. Any project cancelled will be removed from its total exposure figure.

The department has slipped into the red for the first time this year, and it knows that its financial situation would further deteriorate if Nigeria's economy is not propped up by a standby credit from the International Monetary Fund and a complementary refinancing deal of its massive trade debts.

Nigeria's Finance Minister, Dr. Onaolapo Soyoke, has ordered a review of major projects knowing that when he meets IMF officials in about three weeks' time in Lagos, he has to show that state and federal governments' expenditure is being curtailed. Nigeria is seeking up to \$3 billion from the IMF and is fighting against any devaluation of the Naira.

Dr. Soyoke has asked the chairman of Cadbury's in Nigeria, Dr. Gamaliel Onosode, to distinguish between "core

projects, which have an acceptable rate of return, and the money-wasters.

Foreign companies, which at first fought those under review would be projects costing more than £25m in total, are now extremely worried about which substantial schemes close to completion may now be scrapped.

Foreign contractors are already faced with desperate shortages of materials, because foreign exchange controls have reduced imports of goods and material.

Britain's Balfour Beatty, for example, has a \$30m contract to build market stalls in the town of Bauchi. It has yet to start work.







APPOINTMENTS

# Wimpey names director

George Wimpey, following the retirement of Sir Joseph Latham, Mr G. Michael Davies will become a director of George Wimpey and chairman of Wimpey Property Holdings from July 1.

Lillywhites: Mr Reginald Connel has become managing director.

London Shop Property Trust: Mr S. P. Farr, formerly senior partner in Dron & Wright, who has been a non-executive director of London Shop Property Trust, has become an executive director.

Blackwood Hodge: Mr A. C. Richards, Chairman, has taken over as chief executive following the retirement of Mr C. L. Ferguson as group managing director and from the board.

Mr Ferguson will continue to be a consultant to the group. The following have joined the board: Mr R. A. Cameron, group executive for Europe; Mr B. Thompson, general manager of the group's major subsidiary, John Blackwood Hodge & Co, and Mr K. C. Scobie, who has joined the group as finance director.

Manulife: Mr Adrian Boyd has been appointed director of data processing at Manulife UK. Mr Robert Steer has been appointed director of administration, responsible for the life and pensions business. Jean Wood has been appointed director of marketing.

Duncan C. Fraser & Co: Mr Max Lander steps down as joint senior partner from April 30, but will continue to be a partner. On the same date Mr A. G. MacG Fraser and Mr K. Muir McKelvey retire from the partnership and become consultants.

Tynte Television: Miss Anne Mitchell has become assistant company secretary. Consolidated Safeguards: Mr Gilbert Kelland, formerly Assistant Commissioner "C" Department, Metropolitan Police, until his retirement, has joined the board.

NEL Permanent Health Insurance: Mr Gordon Webster has been appointed managing director.

LRC International: The company has been reorganized from six to four divisions of which this directorate consists: Mr R. M. Suberman, international division; Mr V. J. O'Shaughnessy, LRC products division; Mr W. S. Moran, LRC North America division, and Mr R. C. A. Hall, industrial holdings division.

## Andrew Cornelius and Jeremy Warner assess the Business Expansion Scheme

# Testing time for development capital

Within the next few weeks, dozens of unquoted companies in businesses as diverse as hairdressing and audio visual presentation - will receive a vital injection of development capital courtesy of the Government's controversial Business Expansion Scheme (BES).

The deadline for the investments to be made, to qualify for tax advantages, is April 5 - the end of the tax year.

The scheme was introduced by the Government in last year's Budget to encourage private investors to support the expansion of unquoted companies. It allows individual investors to claim tax relief on equity investments of up to £40,000 committed for a minimum of five years in unquoted companies.

Although individuals are entitled - and encouraged - to invest in companies in their own right, in practice most have chosen to take advantage of the scheme by contributing to a fund which is professionally managed.

About 30 such funds have been launched under the scheme, mainly by leading City institutions which already have expertise in providing risk and development capital to small and medium-sized businesses.

The impressive list includes those organized by Lazard Brothers, Electra Investment Trust, S. G. Warburg, Singer & Friedlander and Minister Trust. Other smaller schemes have been established to help businesses in specific parts of the country, like Yorkshire Capital Ventures. It aims to provide aid for companies in the Yorkshire, Humberside and Cleveland areas, while Mercia Venture Capital is concentrating on helping firms in the West Midlands.

The sum of approximately £40m available from these professionally organized funds, is probably less than half that which has been invested.

However, a survey this week by *The Times* shows that all of the leading funds expect to be fully invested before the April 5 deadline. Most of the managers claim to be well along the line in terms of striking deals, although they admit they are working overtime to complete the legal arrangements.

A trickle of announcements is already flowing. Lazard Brothers' Development Fund, for instance, reported at the end of February that it had completed its first investments - a total of £2.47m out of a fund which attracted subscriptions of £5m from individuals. Electra Risk Capital, the Electra Trust Fund, has made 19 investments and will have completed 30 more by April 5.

Other smaller funds are racing to complete agricultural schemes as areas moved outside the BES in the Budget.

Over the next six months, most of the management groups that went into the BES first time round are also expected to launch a second generation of funds - some of them with considerably more ambitious subscription targets than the first. They should also be joined by a welter of newcomers attracted by the way the BES has captured the public's imagination over the last year. Out of 36 BES funds closed for subscription in November and December, 24 were undersubscribed.

Only two were substantially oversubscribed. Charterhouse, which has considerable experience in investing in and nurturing small ventures, attracted more than double the £3m it wanted and Lazard Brothers' scheme was also well met.

But others with less experience in the field fell well short of expectations. For instance, the Buckmaster Development Fund, run by Buckmaster & Moore, the stockbroking firm, was looking for £2.5m but in the end had to be content with just £1m. This time the funds

are hoping for a better response.

Some have also suggested that the BES has failed in its original objectives, because funds had been provided not just for farming and property development, but also for existing businesses that would have had no problem obtaining finance anyway. One fund manager said this week that he knew of several cases where BES funds had actually com-

### Leading Business Expansion Funds

Manager (telephone)	Fund	Range £000	Capital Invested £m	Amount Invested £m
Electra House Group (01) 836 7766	Electra Risk Capital	100-750	10.0	9.0
Lazard Bros (01) 588 2721	Lazard Development Capital	300+	5.0	2.8
Charterhouse Development (01) 248 4000	Charterhouse BEF	100-850	3.0	1.4
S. G. Warburg (01) 600 4555	Mercury BEF	7	2.5	?
County Bank (01) 638 5000	County Bank First BEF	50-400	2.4	2.4
Lawrence Prust/Oakland Management (0488) 93555	ALPHA Expansion Fund	50-200	2.1	?
Stewart Fund Man. (031) 228 5271	Stewart BEF	100-250	2.0	1.1
Granville & Co. (01) 621 1212	Granville BEF/Weasex BEF/Barneshead Expansion Scheme	c.300	2.0	2.0
(01) 638 6826	Guinness Mahon BEF	75-500	1.5	1.0
Capital Ventures (0242) 584380	Singer & Friedlander BEF	100-300	1.5	?
Singer & Friedlander (01) 688 2777	Britannia BEF	-	1.4	1.4

peted with merchant banks for profitable projects where there was already a queue of willing investors.

Mr David Shaw, who runs the Sabrebase Business Expansion Fund also proposed in a pre-Budget submission to the Chancellor that an upper limit of £150,000 should be put on investments by a single company. He said that this would prevent the bulk of each fund's resources being allocated to a handful of large projects.

Sabrebase has also been concerned by the poor quality of some applications for funding sent in by professional advisers to small businesses. Mr Shaw said: "There have been a number of firms of accountants which have sent us badly worked out business plans."

Criticism has also been aimed at the fees charged by the BES funds for their services in vetting the applications. The fees are usually based on a percentage of the loan that is eventually made to a business. They have come under fire because the BES was intended to be a low-cost means of raising funds for small business.

of advisers are experienced in vetting development capital projects and that the fund managers offer a back-up service to businesses in terms of administrative, financial and a planning support.

Yet another criticism of the BES is that it has sprung up on the back of the scheme is that few of them have any track record in investing in venture capital and that there is no way of judging the management expertise of individual funds.

Any company that is licensed to deal by the Department of

Trade and Industry can set up a fund. Given that there are substantial quantities of taxpayer money involved, it might be argued that the Government should have a greater authority, could be applied for greater control.

The harder headed of the older venture capital institutions complain that the effect of the BES has been to make the whole venture capital business

increasingly uncommercial.

Critics also argue that "cowboys" could channel funds into businesses where there may be a loose connection. There is also the possibility that funds earmarked for BES projects could be temporarily diverted to other uses.

These problems have come under scrutiny by the Inland Revenue when it has been asked to approve schemes. But the true test of the BES will come several years from now, when investors will know whether their money has been put into projects which have succeeded.

One benefit of the BES has been to introduce further competition into the market place.

Early soundings of those projects which are benefiting from the scheme suggest that the professional fund managers have erred on the side of caution to protect their investors' interests. Lazard's first investments tended to be in established, medium-sized companies in relatively low-risk areas.

They included £300,000 in a specialist book publishing business, £350,000 in a garage and service station equipment supplier and £500,000 in managed accommodation for the elderly. Planned projects take in a £750,000 investment in builders' merchants and £400,000 in a baby-care product manufacturer.

At Electra, the investments will include an offshoot of Pineapple Dance Studio, a private hospital and also some "genuinely new businesses".

There has also been a healthy market in syndication where more than one fund invests in the same project either because the capital requirement is extremely large or because the nature of the company is such that the involvement of just one fund would lead to their finding control.

Of the eight investments that the Charterhouse fund will have made, three have been syndicated. The fund's first investment was in a property development project.

Government venture capitalists, who have been active since the BES was introduced, need to be sold down.

## Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	8 1/4%
Barclays	8 1/4%
BCCI	8 1/2%
Citibank Savings	11 1/4%
Consolidated Crds	9%
Continental Trust	9%
C. Hoare & Co	8 1/4%
Lloyds Bank	9%
Midland Bank	8 1/4%
Nat Westminster	9%
TSB	9%
Williams & Glyn's	9%

† Mortgage Base Rate.  
\* 7 day deposits on terms of tender £250,000, £500,000 or £1,000,000, 90% LTV, 7.75%.

## Notice to Holders of RICOH COMPANY, LTD. (Kabushiki Kaisha Ricoh)

6% % Convertible Debentures Due 1995  
Notice to Holders of the above-mentioned Debentures may be converted into shares of Common Stock of the Company will be adjusted effective on and after April 1, 1984. The conversion price in effect prior to such adjustment is 549.1 Yen per share and the adjusted conversion price will be 508.4 Yen per share. The adjustment is being made because of a free distribution to holders of Ricoh Company, Ltd. Common Stock at the rate of eight shares for each one hundred shares held.  
RICOH COMPANY, LTD. (Kabushiki Kaisha Ricoh)  
By: Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York, its Trustee  
March 20, 1984

# Sale Tilney

## RESULTS (SUBJECT TO FINAL AUDIT)

Year to November	1983 £000	1982 £000	
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation	2,148	1,805	+19%
Total shareholders' funds	12,820	12,171	+5.3%
Earnings per ordinary share taking account of taxation on ordinary activities at 26% for 1983 as against 7% for 1982.	32.0p	35.2p	-9.1%
Net assets per ordinary share	261.1p	247.7p	+5.4%

## DIVIDEND

Payment of a final dividend of 6.25p per share is being recommended on the ordinary share capital. With the interim dividend total payments are 10.5p per share (1982 8.75p per share), representing an increase of 20 per cent.

## EXTRACT FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S REVIEW

The prospects in the current year for all three divisions of the group appear more promising than for some time. I therefore look forward with confidence to this year and beyond.

SALE TILNEY PLC  
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# Legal Appointments

## Legally Qualified Professional Currency and Interest Rate Swaps

Citicorp, a pioneer and market leader in this fast expanding field of merchant banking, wishes to strengthen their London-based swaps team with a Documentation Professional.

As deputy to the head of the swaps documentation unit within the team, you will take responsibility for the legal/ documentary aspects of swaps transactions. You will be involved in the preparation of documentation, liaising with counsel as necessary and negotiating documentation with clients. You must be prepared to travel overseas at short notice.

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New London Bridge House,  
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c. £20,000 + car

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## Legal Adviser

International Computers Limited, Europe's leading computer and information technology company, requires a well-qualified barrister or solicitor to join the ICL Group's head office legal team based in Putney, London.

Applicants, aged under 30, must have a good law degree and about two years' experience in private practice or as an in-house lawyer.

The work of the ICL Group's legal team covers a broad range of company and commercial work including international commercial agreements, EEC law, competition law, employment law, joint ventures, acquisitions and disposals and the law of intellectual property. Candidates must have - or be able and willing rapidly to acquire - experience and expertise in all or most of these areas.

The key requirement is the ability to bring sound legal skills to bear on the activities of a complex international high technology business in a professional but practical fashion.

Salary will be up to £14,000.

Please send details of qualifications and experience to John Llewellyn-Davies, Personnel Manager, at International Computers Limited, ICL House, Putney, London SW15 1SW (telephone 01-788 7272 ext. 2666).

**ICL**

We should be talking to each other.

## Barristers' Clerk

Temple £15,000-£20,000

A leading set of commercial chambers is seeking a person of proven ability to assist in all aspects of its administration.

Following the introduction of a computer, these chambers wish to employ someone aged about 28 who, notwithstanding the need for the unique personal qualities suited to this choice of career, can extend the traditional role of Clerk by an administrative dimension more frequently found in industry and commerce.

The post may, therefore, appeal to unqualified staff in a firm of solicitors, or members of the legal department of a large company, who are not only familiar with the system of retaining Counsel but also with the use of up-to-date information processing equipment, and possess the administrative and organisational skills necessary in running a successful business.

The chambers are able to be flexible in negotiating the starting salary - a guide to which is indicated above - and the position will carry excellent prospects.

Please send brief cv, in confidence, to PAB Wemyss, Ref: PF25/8585/TT.

**PA**

PA Personnel Services

Hyde Park House, 60a Knightsbridge, London SW1X 7LE.  
Tel: 01-235 6060 Telex: 27874

## Conveyancing Solicitor

Major Oil Company

A major oil company wishes to appoint a Conveyancing Solicitor in its Legal Department in central London.

Applications are invited from solicitors with at least two years' post qualification experience, and preferably with a law degree. The preferred age is 25-30. The job requires the ability to handle a variety of conveyancing work connected with the Company's marketing activities in the UK, and related matters. The successful applicant must also have business acumen, drive and initiative.

Salary and benefits will fully reflect the responsibility of the position.

Please write, giving details of age, qualifications, experience and present salary (as well as a telephone number, if convenient) to: Confidential Reply Service, Ref. ASC 8958, Austin Knight Advertising Limited, London, W1A 1DS.

Applications are forwarded to the client concerned, therefore companies in which you are not interested should be listed in a covering letter to the Confidential Reply Supervisor.

**Austin  
Knight  
Advertising**

## Assistant Law Draftsman States of Jersey

Salary circa £16,000

A vacancy will arise in the Law Drafting Section of the States Greffe early in 1985 and it is desired to make an appointment during the autumn of 1984 to provide an adequate hand-over period.

Jersey is a self-governing island with its own legislature of politically independent members. It is independent of the United Kingdom for all purposes except defence and international affairs. The island's administration is run by Committees composed of elected members of the States and by the Jersey Civil Service. All the principal Committees have the statutory authority to promote legislation, both principal and subordinate.

As a member of a small team, the Assistant Law Draftsman will be expected to draft, without detailed supervision, all items of legislation, which are enacted by Committees of the States or the States itself.

Applicants should be over 35 years of age and should be qualified either as a Barrister or Solicitor with at least ten years practical legal experience, five years of which should have been spent in the field of legislative drafting. The post will be on a contract basis for a period of five years.

Application form and job description available from States Personnel Department, Cyril Le Marquand House, P.O. Box 600, The Parade, St. Helier, Jersey C.I. Telephone 0534 79111 Ext 135. Closing date 10th April 1984.

Norton, Rose, Botterell & Roche

## Commercial Property Lawyers

We are expanding our Property Department in order to handle an increasing amount of property development and related commercial property work. We are looking for Solicitors with a real interest in and flair for this important area of our practice. Ideally applicants should have about two years relevant experience but we are quite ready to consider anyone of ability with less experience who can demonstrate the necessary potential and enthusiasm.

Salary and benefits will take full account of the challenging and demanding role to be fulfilled by successful applicants.

Please apply in writing to:

Robert Staveley,  
Kempson House,  
Canonica Street,  
London EC3A 7AN

Norton, Rose, Botterell & Roche

## SJ Berwin & Co

### COMMERCIAL LAWYERS

SJ Berwin & Co wish to recruit young solicitors who have recently qualified, for its commercial department. The work which will appeal to able and energetic solicitors with a good academic background is demanding and lively and covers banking, intellectual property and EEC law. The positions are suitable both for newly qualified solicitors and those with two to three years experience since qualification, in a firm where career prospects and terms of employment are excellent.

Applications will be treated in strict confidence, and applicants should write with full CV to:

D T D Harrel  
SJ Berwin & Co  
Capital House,  
42 Weston Street,  
London SE1 3QN.  
(01-408 3111).

## YOUNG SOLICITOR/BARRISTER for Record Company

A recently qualified solicitor or barrister is sought to join the legal department of Phonogram Ltd. As assistant to the Manager - Legal & Business Affairs, the successful candidate will be involved with the preparation of agreements, administration of artist contracts and all day-to-day business.

Applicants should be aged early-mid 20's, have an interest in contemporary music and the desire to make a legal career within the music business.

Please send a detailed c.v. to Veronica Spicer, Personnel Officer, Phonogram Limited, 50 New Bond Street, London W1. Tel. 01-491 4600.

**phonogram**

## Suffolk County Council

### County Prosecuting Solicitor's Department PROSECUTING SOLICITORS

(2 Posts) £10,242 - £12,738 per annum

Applications, including those from newly qualified Solicitors, are invited for the above posts which provide good opportunities for persons interested in gaining a wide experience in advocacy in the criminal courts.

Essential car user and subsistence allowance are attached to the posts. Removal and lodging expenses paid where appropriate.

Applicants giving age, qualifications, experience and the names of two referees should be sent by 12th April 1984 to M. F. C. Harvey, County Prosecuting Solicitor, Suffolk Constabulary Force Headquarters, Martineau Road, Ipswich IP5 7QS.

## LAWYERS for Middle or Far East

Coward Chance are expanding their overseas operations in the Middle and Far East and require qualified solicitors or barristers willing to work abroad after a period in their City office.

Applicants with a good degree and experience in international financial, commercial or shipping work will be preferred.

Career prospects are good and salary and other benefits will be competitive.

Please write with full c.v. to:

Mr. M.C.C. Magridge,  
Coward Chance, Roper House,  
Aldersbury Square,  
London, EC2V 7LD.

**COWARD CHANCE**

## COMPANY COMMERCIAL £12,500

Our Client, a Solicitor 2 years' experience with ability to give Counsel a comprehensive service in a wide range of matters including Shares, and Business Acquisitions, and Disputes, Joint Ventures, Corporate Governance and Re-organisations, Partnerships and Intellectual Property, Central London Solicitors.

### COMMERCIAL CONVEYANCING

Our Client, a leading West End Practice, require a Solicitor newly qualified up to 2 years' experience to work on various property matters including financing projects and investments etc. The applicant must have initiative and self-motivation to work in a rapidly expanding and progressive practice. Salary and Benefits Package Competitive.

LINDA BEST  
01-485 2651

Kestral Law Employment  
P.O. Box 2, 238 High  
Holborn, London WC1.

### CO. COMM. SOLICITOR

7 Partner firm in W1 require Solicitor 1/3 yrs admitted with sound commercial training.

Apply to:

LONDON LEGAL  
EXECUTIVES  
29 Maddox St.  
London W1R 6LD  
Tel 01-493 1282  
Headhunting Consultants

## COUNTY OF CAMBRIDGE APPOINTMENT OF PROSECUTING SOLICITOR

The County Prosecuting Solicitor advises and undertakes prosecutions on behalf of the Chief Constable of Cambridgeshire. A vacancy exists for a Prosecuting Solicitor. The post provides an opportunity for someone interested in advocacy and court work in a pleasant part of the country.

Our offer allowance on the appropriate scale will be paid and payments towards removal and lodging expenses. Rental accommodation may be made available for a period of up to twelve months following appointment or by arrangement on a most permanent basis.

The salary will be within the range £12,087 - £13,395. Local Government experience is not essential but preference will be given to applicants who can demonstrate either at least twelve months' experience in advocacy since admission or substantial experience of criminal court work prior to admission. An applicant with substantial relevant experience and aptitude may expect to be appointed some way up the advertised grade.

Newly qualified solicitors will be considered but may be appointed for a probation period of slightly below the minimum for the grade advertised.

For a form of application please write to the undersigned or for an informal word, telephone Huntingdon (0485) 56111 Ext 600. The closing date for applications is Wednesday 11th April 1984.

David C. Bull, MA (Cantab)  
County Prosecuting Solicitor  
County of Cambridgeshire  
The Messes, Broomfield  
HUNTINGDON  
Cambs PE18 8PG

LEGAL CASHIER City, scope for training. Personal appointments 242 1281 (24 hrs service).  
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LEGAL EXECUTIVES City comm conveyance. Personal appointments. 242 1281 (24 hrs service).  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SOLICITOR. From 1st April to end September 1984. City comm conveyance and estate agency. Personal appointments. 242 1281.  
SOUTHERN LITIGATION & JUSTICE. Work commencing early 1984. Personal appointments. 242 1281.  
LEGAL EXECUTIVES. Personal appointments. 242 1281 (24 hrs service).







# Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Dear

## BBC 1

6.00 Cee-fax AM.  
6.30 Breakfast Time with Frank Bough and Selina Scott. News from Dublin at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30 with headlines on the quarter hours; sport at 6.40 and 7.40; regional news, weather and traffic at 6.45, 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; television preview at 8.55; review of the morning papers at 9.10 and 9.15; horoscopes at 8.55; food and cooking and financial advice between 8.30 and 9.00.

9.00 Craft of the Weaver. Rug making is the subject of the first programme presented by Ann Sutton (r). 9.25 Cee-fax. 10.30 Play School (r). 10.55 Cee-fax.

12.30 News After Noon with Richard Cameron presents an hour of news. The weather forecast from Jim Bacon. 12.57 Regional News (London and SE only). Financial report followed by news headlines with subtitles. 1.00 Pebble Mill at One. Among the guests is Terence Conran. There is also part one of a two-part microwave cookery course. 1.45 Check-a-Block (r).

2.00 Caught in Time. James Cameron presents an amateur's film, made in 1938 by Major Giff, that illustrates the customs and traditions of Cornwall (r). 2.20 Film: *Deadly Game* (1954) starring Robert Mitchum and Jean Simmons. A philanthropic heiress's gifts to a small community wreaks havoc among the inhabitants. Directed by Lloyd Bacon. 3.45 Regional News (not London).

3.50 Magic Roundabout (r). 3.55 Play School. 4.20 The New Adventures of Mighty Mouse. 4.25 Jackanory. Norman Beaton with part two of *Jet*, a gift to the family. 4.40 Charlie Brown (r). 5.25 John Craven's Newsround. 5.15 Treasure Houses. In the third of his four-part series Mark Curry tours the Wimbledon Tennis Museum.

5.40 Sixty Minutes includes news from Moira Stuart at 5.40. 6.40 Harry. His guests include the Dr Who, Colin Baker, his predecessor, Peter Davison, and cello/violent Simon Alexander.

7.10 The District Nurse. The penultimate episode and the miniseries are unhappy about *Magic* living in Glen and David's cottage.

7.40 A Question of Sport. Bill Beaumont and Elinor Hughes captain two teams of sports personalities in a test of sporting knowledge.

8.10 Dallas. Ray and Donna discover the secret which JR is using to blackmail Edgar Randolph.

8.00 News with John Humphrys. 9.25 Play for Today: *Hard* (1983). A play by David Llewellyn. Drama set in a British house during the early 80s, about the deteriorating friendship of four graduates who share the same house (see Choice).

10.50 Ballroom Championships. Introduced by Ray Moore from the Hammerstein Palace. Couples compete for the professional modern and amateur Latin American titles of the United Kingdom Ballroom Championships.

11.35 News headlines. 11.40 Phil Spector as *Sergeant Bilko in Bilko the Genius* (r). 12.05 Weather.

## TV-am

6.25 Good-Morning Britain! presented by Nick Owen and Anne Diamond. News from Gordon Honeycombe at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00; sport at 6.35 and 7.35; consumer affairs at 6.40 and 8.45; sex scenes at 6.50 and 8.15; the day's odd anniversaries at 7.05 and 8.05; a guest in the spotlight at 7.20; cartoon at 7.25; guest of the day at 7.40; pop music news at 7.50; inside a celebrity's house at 8.10; video report at 8.35; and baby talk at 8.05.

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Rudolf Nureyev as Rudolph Valentino in *Valentino*. Channel 4, 9.00pm

## BBC 2

6.05 Open University: Modern Art. Van Gogh. 6.30 *Rico's* Browned. 6.55 *Enigma* Structure and Function. 7.20 *Science* Exploring Oceans. 7.45 *Energy to Go* Round. Ends at 8.10.

8.00 Cee-fax. 8.05 Daytime on Two German Counties. 8.25 *Maths* Counts. 8.40 *Maths* relating measures of volume and capacity. 10.10 Part nine of *The Boy from Japan*. 10.35 *Science* Exploring Oceans. 11.17 *Walrus*. 11.40 *English* writing a story. 12.00 *English* management (ends at 12.25).

12.35 *Trigonometry*. 1.15 *Science* Maths. 1.40 *With the Fisherman* of Arbroath. 2.00 *You and Me*. 2.15 *British* school history: State education since the Act of 1870. 2.35 Cee-fax.

5.10 Equal to the Task. An Open University production that studies the Comprehensive Grammar school debate with a look at lessons and attitudes at two schools.

5.35 News summary with subtitles. 5.40 *Flora the Charlie Chaplin Mystery*. *Dead Man* (1941). Starring Sidney Toler as the insouciant sleuth solving the mystery of a murdered crew of a boat searching for 18th century treasure. Directed by Harry Lachman.

6.40 *Tucker's Luck*. Episodes two and three are shown with an unrelenting guest.

7.05 *Sparks*. Three more examples of young enterprises - a Liverpool cake; a fashion design business in Glasgow; and a computer games factory in Hampshire.

7.30 *Jane*. The Daily Mirror cartoon heroine loses her clothes but never her virtue in wartime Britain (r).

7.40 *Tom Kestling*. In the final programme of his series the late Mr Kestling looks at the life of Paul Cezanne.

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This week's Play for Today. *Dead Man* (1941) featured a group of hugely unlovable characters in the shape of two men and two women, all Oxford graduates who have been able to continue their university friendship thanks to the parents of one of them. Viv, who has let them stay in their refurbished Brighton house while they sensibly soak up the Californian sun. It is the spring of 1981 and while the black youth of the neighbourhood protest to protest against what they think is victimization by the police, dramas develop in the selfish world of the bright young things. Viv, who regards her guests from the point of view of a house-mother, desires of a husband who would be able to make things uncomfortable for Jane who has forsaken the wine and dining and shopping.

## CHANNEL 4

4.45 Night Beat News. For any other type of news magazine programme an industrial dispute, an extended and rugby history celebrations would be heaven sent events. But for this incompetent lot it is all too much.

5.15 Years Ahead. Magazine programme for the older viewer, presented by Robert Douglas. Help the Age's *Years Ahead* programme for 23-year-old Jeanie McDougall to be made-up to look fifty years older. She talks about the way she was treated to Mary Seacole, an item on an unusual Age Concern charity shop in East Sussex; Margaret Dibben explains how the latest budget measures may affect pensioners; and the actor her plan to build a spacecraft to travel to other galaxies.

6.00 Bewitched. Sorcery is used by Samantha when she wants to draw attention to the fact that a busy crossing needs traffic lights.

6.30 *Cautionary Tales*. The fourth programme in the series deals with people's rights concerning housing repairs. Bernard Simmonds presents the programme that features three people in Leeds and Liverpool who successfully used the law to get their landlords to carry out repairs to their homes.

7.00 Channel Four News. 7.10 Comment. On the soap box this evening with his thoughts on a topical subject is Lord Darnley, government chief whip in the House of Lords.

8.00 *Brookside*. Davey Jones is causing trouble to both his family and his friends. If it were not enough for the poor girl, her troubles are compounded when Barry offers to drive her to the airport.

8.30 *Tom Kestling*. In the final programme of his series the late Mr Kestling looks at the life of Paul Cezanne.

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## CHOICE

excursions of former years to study law. Jane, a Jewess, is submitted to petty and Socratic jokes and general rudeness and is eventually forced out but not before Tove, her radical journalist boyfriend, shakes the remaining trio out of their headlong rush into the harsh realities of modern life. Frances Barber, Jennifer Lander, Chris Jury and Ian Reddington handle the sometimes sharp script with aplomb but not in a way to make the viewer concerned as to the eventual fate of the foursome.

## RADIO 4

6.00 News Briefing. Weather. 6.15 *Partridge*. 6.30 *Today*, including 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 News Summary. 6.45 *Prayer* for the Day. 6.55 *Weather*. 7.00, 8.00 *Today's News*. 7.30 *Today's Letters*. 7.55, 12.50 *Today*. 7.45 *Today's News*. 8.30 *Today's News*. 9.00 *Today's News*. 9.30 *Today's News*. 10.00 *Today's News*. 10.30 *Today's News*. 11.00 *Today's News*. 11.30 *Today's News*. 12.00 *Today's News*. 12.30 *Today's News*. 1.00 *Today's News*. 1.30 *Today's News*. 2.00 *Today's News*. 2.30 *Today's News*. 3.00 *Today's News*. 3.30 *Today's News*. 4.00 *Today's News*. 4.30 *Today's News*. 5.00 *Today's News*. 5.30 *Today's News*. 6.00 *Today's News*. 6.30 *Today's News*. 7.00 *Today's News*. 7.30 *Today's News*. 8.00 *Today's News*. 8.30 *Today's News*. 9.00 *Today's News*. 9.30 *Today's News*. 10.00 *Today's News*. 10.30 *Today's News*. 11.00 *Today's News*. 11.30 *Today's News*. 12.00 *Today's News*. 12.30 *Today's News*. 1.00 *Today's News*. 1.30 *Today's News*. 2.00 *Today's News*. 2.30 *Today's 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